

Tundi.—No standing crops and no agricultural work. Many of the people are eating herbs and jungle fruits. Health good. Common rice sells at 8½ seers.

Niraha.—Agricultural labour at a standstill. Blind, deaf and old persons and beggars coming to the thana for food; being supplied. Health good. Price of common rice, 10 seers.

Chas.—The chaukidars report that many people do not get full meals. The condition of sugarcane on the ground is not bad. Small-pox existed in some villages, but is subsiding. Common rice sells at 9 seers.

4. Although the Bengal Famine Code prescribes the submission of reports under sections 1 and 161 by the police only, I have taken advantage of the fact that there are eleven tahsildars employed in the numerous Encumbered and Wards' Estates in this district and have called for regular reports from them, in the Forms given in those sections. I have just received their first reports. These show, as regards the tahsils of the affected areas mentioned in the last paragraph above, that numbers of people are in distress in the Tundi and Gobindpur thanas.

5. As regards parts of the district other than the affected parts mentioned above, the *Jhalda thana* Police report states that the labouring classes are in distress owing to the want of work and the very high prices of food, some people not getting two meals a day.

Gourangdih thana.—Police report states that the invalid, blind and lame people are not getting sufficient by begging as usual, and that the labourers cannot all get work. The report from the *Satwari outpost* of the Raghunathpur thana states that some people are in distress. The report from the *Hura outpost* of the Purulia thana states that several persons are suffering from want in four villages. It will be remembered that the officer in charge of each thana and outpost throughout the district has funds for gratuitous relief in all urgent cases. The tahsildar of *Jhalda* states that the poorer classes in his tahsil are in distress, being unable to get work or sufficient food.

The tahsildars of Raghunathpur (thana) and Dobra (in the Para thana) say that the poorer classes in their tahsils are in difficulties.

From their reports it appears that *Jhalda thana* (area 396 square-miles, population in 1891, 102,320, density per square-mile 258) should be included as an affected area, and that the *Gourangdih thana* (area 173 square-miles, population 52,640) and the *Saturi and Huro* outposts of the Raghunathpur and Purulia thanas respectively, soon to be included also.

The affected areas are thus, as follows:—

Thanas.	Area in square-miles.	Population.	Density of population per square-mile.
1	2	3	4
Gobindpur and Tundi ...	478	1,09,530	229
Niraha ...	170	68,675	345
Chas ...	237	1,00,487	424
Jhalda ...	396	1,02,320	258
Total ...	1,281	3,71,012	.....
DISTRICT GRAND TOTAL ...	4,147	11,93,328	288

5. *Prospects of the crops*.—The *rabi* is very poor, indeed, this year in most parts of the district. In many villages there is none at all; on the whole only about one-third of the *rabi* area has been sown; there has been scarcely any good done by the rain to the *rabi* in this district during the season. The *rabi* area in normal years is, however, estimated to be only 13 per cent. of the whole area, cultivated with edible crops; sugarcane in some places is good.

6. *Prices*.—I have arranged to receive weekly information on post-cards from school-teachers, ghatwals, &c., of prices at local markets in 31 places throughout the district. I have, however, only received 20 replies from last week up to this morning. These show that the price of common rice varies from 8½ to 10 seers of 80 tolas. I found the price 11 seers at Chandil when I visited that place last week, but that figure was caused by an importation of some 20 cart-loads from over the border of the Singhbhum district.

In future reports a statement will be given comparing the prices returned on the post-cards.

7. *Food-stocks*.—This subject was dealt with fully in my report, No. 1307R, dated the 6th ultimo. The senders of the post-cards, mentioned above, state in some instances that the supplies brought to the markets are not ample.

8. *Importation or Exportation of grains*.—Practically all the importation or exportation takes place by rail. Post-cards with statements of imports and exports of food-grains

to and from the district were sent to me by each Station Master, in accordance with the orders contained in Bengal Government's Circular No. 7 (Statistical), dated the 18th ultimo. From the replies received, I drew up the following telegram which was despatched yesterday, to the Director-General of Statistics as, directed in paragraph 2 of the Circular just quoted.

"Manbhum thirtieth Imports 5,111, exports 256 maunds, total 5,367. Exclusive four small stations not yet reported."

Since then one station has been found not to exist, and a blank report has been received from another. Reports are thus wanting for the two small stations, of Ramkanali and Chandil on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

The figures received are given in detail thus:—

				Exports.	Imports.
Bengal-Nagpur Railway ...	{	Adra	...	40	70
		Anra	...	33	148
		Kustaur	...	...	...
		Purulia	...	90	410
		Kantadi	...	...	15
		Balarampur	...	78	74
East Indian Railway ...	{	Nimdih	...	...	...
		Kalubathan	...	13	...
		Prodhan Khunta	...	...	581
		Dhan Baed	...	...	2,517
		Katrasgarh	...	2	1,296
				<hr/> 256	<hr/> 5,111

It will be observed that nearly the whole of the imports were at the stations on the East Indian Railway, which runs through the north of the district where the affected areas are situated.

9. *Rainfall*.—There has been scarcely any rain during the fortnight. A few very light showers fell in some places, but did no good.

10. *Public health*.—In places not good. But the reports do not show that it is worse in the affected parts than elsewhere in the district. The following table for the district jail shows the percentages of unhealthy prisoners admitted during each of the last 8 quarters.

					1895.	1896.
1st quarter	...	...	...	...	23.14	26.15
2nd	"	...	...	...	22.01	25.32
3rd	"	...	...	...	31.96	27.16
4th	"	...	...	...	35.43	23.11

Up to the 28th ultimo, 15 out of 50 (or 30 per cent.) admitted since 1st January had been declared in this quarter as unhealthy.

These figures do not show a deterioration in health among persons admitted to the jail.

Emigration or immigration of famished people.—I have not been able to obtain the most recent figures of emigration from the district, but it does not seem that emigration to Assam is yet greater than usual here. Up-country men are reported from several thanas to be making their way through the district towards the Railway works in the adjoining district of Midnapore. I have myself met several of such people.

12. *Condition of the cattle*.—There is rinderpest among the cattle in several thanas but it had existed for months and does not seem due to the scarcity. It is not reported from the most affected thanas. Fodder is generally sufficient.

13. 2(a) *Number and nature of public works open in or near the affected tracts*.—In the Gobindpur thana about Rs. 400 is being expended on the usual repairs to roads, and about the same amount in the Tundi thana on the same account. About Rs. 200 is being spent on the roads in the Nirsha thana. These amounts are being expended by contractors, and the works for which they have been allotted by the District Road Fund Committee will probably be completed this month.

There are no works under the Municipal Committees or the Public Works Department open in the affected tracts.

On the 31st ultimo there were employed on test relief works (i) 104 men, (ii) 58 women, (iii) 18 children. By yesterday evening the total number had risen to 1,558.

14. (3) *Cases of relief under section 12 of the Code*.—The sum of Rs. 330.2 of the Rs. 500 placed at my disposal from the Bengal Famine Relief Fund has been advanced to the officers in charge of thanas and outposts and to the Subdivisional Officer of Gobindpur. I have not yet received complete accounts of the expenditure of this money. Some police officers have not had occasion to spend any, but several have spent more than the sums originally allotted to them and have been supplied with more. The Subdivisional Officer of Gobindpur reports that 21 persons are in receipt of regular gratuitous relief from him.

15. (4) *Number of applications received for loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, as compared with the number received ordinarily at this time of the year*.—These figures are not quite ready and I do not delay the report for them.

But I know that the applications being made for loans under these acts are very numerous, and are largely in excess of the normal.

16. Regarding the correspondence between Mr. Ainslie, Subdivisional Officer of Gobindpur and myself, it will be observed that he says that he thinks I expressed too hopeful a view in my report under section 10 (with a copy of which I furnished him). His addition that, perhaps, that view was more hopeful than was my "own personal opinion" has no foundation. The view I expressed in the report in question was, of course, the only view I had, which I formed to the best of my ability from the information at my disposal. Attention is drawn to Mr. Ainslie's statement about the locality where test-relief works have been opened, "until I made minute enquiries to-day and yesterday" (i.e., 25th and 26th January 1897) "I do not myself understand that things were so bad as they are in this part, though I always expected distress would first show itself actually in this neighbourhood."

I may mention here that the District Superintendent of Police informs me that he thinks I have estimated the stocks in hand at too high a figure, but this is only his impression.

With reference to Mr. Ainslie's complaint about not being furnished with copies of reports under sections 1 and 161 of the Code, I am satisfied that the District Superintendent of Police directed such copies to be sent. Mr. Briscoe informs me that the copies are said to have been sent regularly to the Subdivisional Officer's office. The matter is being dealt with and does not require further orders.

17. As to the cause of starvation reported by Mr. Ainslie in paragraph 13 of his letter of the 26th ultimo, I have had a separate enquiry made. I sent out the General Manager of Wards and Encumbered Estates in this District, Babu Rakhal Das Sirkar, an excellent Officer, to enquire specially into this case and all the other cases within the Tundi Encumbered Estate mentioned by Mr. Ainslie. I attach a copy of his report, dated the 1st instant, and received this morning. It will be noticed under the heading 'Bolardi' in his diary that the case of starvation is one of some doubt. The report and diary, however, corroborate Mr. Ainslie's opinion, if any corroboration were required, that the labouring classes in the north of the Gobindpur Subdivision are much in need of work, and that the beggars and the poorest people require assistance.

18. The necessary orders will be passed at once upon Mr. Ainslie's latest references. I will send him out the money and tools required, and will follow myself shortly to inspect the test-works in progress. I anticipate that I shall have to open similar works in the other affected thanas, which I shall visit, too, within a few days.

19. The statements regarding the wages to be submitted with the fortnightly reports, as directed in the Bengal Government's Circular No. 1 (Fam.), dated the 6th ultimo, cannot be submitted now. Mr. Ainslie's letter of the 31st ultimo contains the only information available regarding wages paid under the Code. I shall deal fully with the subject in my next report, after visiting the works.

CAMP PAKURIA,
The 31st January 1897.

I HAVE not time to write a formal report, so I am letting you know the facts up to date (4 P. M.) this day (31st). I arrived here yesterday morning (30th) and found a crowd assembled. After studying some papers I had not seen before, I went to open test-relief work. Found a huge crowd and it is difficult to separate would-be workers from spectators. So went off to the tank in Panderah, where I propose to start work, and the would-be workers followed:—

Fixed rates at 6 pice per man.

Ditto	5	„	woman.
Ditto	3	„	child able to work.
Ditto	1½	„	child unable to work.

Rice being at 8½ seers per rupee in the principal shop in this locality, and the shop-keepers agreeing to keep a big stock and sell at that rate, I think the rates fixed are a good test. In fact, some grumbled and said it was too little to work for. I said they might go, but they elected to stay as they had nothing to live on; six pice means ¾th seer of rice, without pulse, or salt, or oil, or vegetable. The work is excavation in medium soil with a short-lead and high lift; the Public Works Department rate is, I understand Rs. 2·8 per thousand cubic feet which is higher than any Bihar rate. I have fixed tasks in accordance with entries in first line (lead 50 feet) in columns 3, 10, 17 of Table 2a, that is—

	Cubic feet.		
Adult Males	65
Adult females	52
Children	34

All the afternoon was spent in making up gangs:—result, 104 men, 58 women 18 big children, 63 infants. This morning I find the Sardar of each gang for 2 days (Saturday taken up in arranging gangs, and Sunday). In the evening (Saturday) I opened a gratuitous relief register and found 21 persons to enter. This morning I distributed rice (8½ seers per adult and 1½ seers per child) to each of the said 21 persons, for 7 days, i.e., adult 11b per diem and child 4lb per diem. This afternoon I have entered 12 more adults and 11 more children in the gratuitous relief register. Total entries now 44 and I am just about to give

out a week's supply of rice to those entered this afternoon. Hundreds are expected to flock to the test works to-morrow. I want a supply of kodalis (300) pickaxes (300) and baskets (400). I expect a rush, but the gang system will be most rigidly adhered to. The usual wage here is 2 annas per day with rice at 16 seer per rupee.

E. F. AINSLIE.

Dated Maharajganj, pargana Tundi, the 1st February 1897.

From—RAKHAL DAS SIRKAR, General Manager,
To—The Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum.

IN obedience to your order of the 29th ultimo, I left Purulia by the morning train of the 30th and arrived here yesterday. I have the honour to submit herewith my diary for yesterday and to-day, and to state as follows.

2. From what I saw and heard, it appears to me that the labourers, as a rule, have commenced to feel the pressure of scarcity, as the cultivators, upon whom they ordinarily depend, are unable this year to give them employment owing to scanty produce of their lands. About this time of the year the cultivators generally employ the labourers in improving their lands or making *airs*, or small embankments, for bringing new lands under cultivation, but this year they, having no paddy in stock, cannot do so.

3. The cultivators of smaller scale, having one or two ploughs, will also soon be in difficulty. They came to me in numbers and enquired if they would get agricultural loans, which no doubt will be required by many. I told them to apply to the Sub-Divisional Officer, who will consider their cases.

4. I also saw many persons who own *jalkar* lands and *bandhs*. They appear willing to take taccavi advances. If these people get advances in time, it will be a material benefit to the country, as the labourers will get work and there will be improvement of the water-supply.

5. People who live by begging are in distress, as the cultivators being short in stock are unable to give alms as they used to do.

6. It appears to me it is now high time to open test-works in selected localities, as the labouring class, who are now living principally on jungle-fruits, roots and leaves may before long fall victims to diseases, while, if they get work, they will be able to earn their subsistence till the next cultivating season.

7. Yesterday I saw a *khas bandh* of the Tundi estate near Mahanad; if this *bandh* is improved people of five villages will be benefited, as the high lands of their villages will get water for irrigation from this reservoir.

8. It is said that the people of some villages on the north and west of Tundi are also in distress. I intend to start for Tundi to-morrow.

9. I have not yet given anything in the shape of gratuitous relief, as I find none worthy of such gift under the Famine Code.

PURULIA TO GOBINDPUR.

30th and 31st January 1897.—Started from Gobindpur and arrived at Maharajganj in pargana Tundi. Met with the tahsildar who came from Pakhuria. Saw also some raiyats of Moradi. The Sonthals and other people of the labouring class are said to be now principally substituting on jungle-fruits, such as dumur (figs) *bhela*, plums and wood apple, as well as roots and leaves. They are scarcely getting rice.

In the afternoon saw the villages mentioned below:—

Kataldi.—There Narir Jala, Natesa Jala, Birsia Majee, Nando Lal Ghose and Gora Tuxi are said to be in want of work.

Ram Naga.—Tarka Maji is in want, as he is a labourer and has to support a wife and six children.

Korigardi.—There also the landless labourers are in want of work. Raya Majee and Logda Majee.

Bermealand.—Aklad Suri, Amrit Majee, Rajowar are in want of work and not getting rice duly.

Mahanad.—Here Porkha Bowri, Gatapsi Tasin and some other widows are in distress. I saw some of them. They did not seem much reduced. One Budhna Turi said that he had taken only roots of *latas* that day as he got no work. He is not also much reduced.

Tetai-taur.—Here one two Sonthals and one Dome without work.

Kanajdi.—Here only a half-mad woman is said to be in distress: she is living by begging.

1st February 1897.—In the morning went towards Balardi from where the case of starvation has been reported. Passed through the following villages:—

Rampore.—Here are old Sawdagar and a Goala are said to be in distress. I saw the Sawdagar. He is an old man and has no business now. Has no son. Lives by begging.

Woroodi.—None said to be in bad condition, but labourers want labour.

Nowatand.—Here also labourers are said to be in distress. Saw several cultivators. They said their produce was very short. They are in great anxieties.

Halkata.—Two houses of Bowris and one Bumy are in distress. They said they are thinking of going to work at Pandra, where test-work has been opened.

Latain.—Here also 1 Sonthal and 1 Bowri are said to be in want of work. They were gone out in search of work.

Sankardi.—No particular complaint.

Bakardi.—Arrived here at about 10 A.M. Saw the holder at the village and several villagers. They said that the deceased Hira Mahali did not take settlement for bamboos this year for want of means. So he used to work on bamboos taken from others. Lately he was living by begging. He was much reduced. He had to support his father, step-mother and her children. Two days before his death he could not come out of his house. He was perhaps attacked with some illness brought on from weakness. None could say what was the illness. I asked the deceased's father how his son died. This man's name is Jihi Mahali. It is very old and infirm. He said that one Sawdagar of Nirsá came to their house to ask for a rupee they owed. The deceased made over a *thali* (plate) they had and entered the house. He did not come out again. He laid down two days and then died. A step-brother of the deceased, a lad of about 15 years, said he died of anxieties.

From Balardi returned to Maharajgunge *via* Gopi Nawdi, Tesra tand and Kendua tand. In these villages also the labouring class said they were in want of labour.

Second half-monthly report from 16th to 31st January 1897.

FIGURES RELATING TO WEEK ENDING 31ST JANUARY 1897.

Section 24.

1. Area affected	...	...	No change during the fortnight.
2. General state of affected tracts	...	...	No relief circles or officers.
Crop prospects	...	...	<i>Rabi</i> promises well. Mohua not out yet.
Food-stocks	...	...	As before reported, occasional short supply in local bazâr, made up at nearest hât.
Importation	...	...	Importation by road from Gaya, Lohardaga and Maubhum, besides by rail to Giridih station.
Exportation	...	...	Mohua, til and ghee to Gaya.
Rainfall	...	...	None.
Public health	...	...	Very good.
Emigration	...	...	Excess emigration to Duars and Assam tea-gardens reported from 11 thanas.
Immigration	...	...	<i>Nil.</i>
Condition of cattle	...	...	Very little disease reported.
General	...	...	Ploughing in progress in some parts.
3. Number of relief works, numbers paid, rates of wages, private relief works.	...	...	Blank. People have refused to work on test-relief works throughout the district at less than ordinary rates. Works of ordinary rates are being given.
4. Number of poor-houses open	...	...	Blank.
5. Employment of artizans, &c	...	...	I am trying to introduce cotton-thread making.
6. Organisation of the distribution of grain or money doles.	...	...	All thanas and outposts have funds to give cooked meal to any one in want. Small amount distributed in this manner. Some poor people in Encumbered Estates are to be fed at Estate expense. Zamindars and mohunts are giving doles to some extent. Lists of people of respectable classes, who are unable to work at earth-work and of people of all classes unable to work who require relief, are being prepared.

7. Relief in kitchens

Week ending 24th January 1897.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Hazaribagh	96	26	50	172
Barhi	60	19	40	119

Week ending 31st January 1897.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Hazaribagh	139	45	112	296
Barhi	98	17	19	134

8. Loans—numbers and system

A loan of Rs. 5,000 will be granted to the Manager, Encumbered Estates, on the ordinary terms under the Act, from the available amount allotted already to the district. Applications for loans to improve water-supply called for.

9. Finance.

A.—Receipts—

Road-cess	...	...	Rs. 190 sent to thanas and to the Sub-Registrar of Barhi.
Government...	...	...	None.
Famine Relief Fund	...	...	Rs. 500.
Private subscriptions	...	...	Paid. Promised.
Sadar	...	...	Rs. 90 ... Rs. 375-12.
Giridih	...	...	" 549 ... " 1,180 for Giridih village only

B.—*Expenditure*—

Relief works ... Blank.
 Doles (by Police) will follow. ...
 Kitchen ... Rs. 36-8-7½.
 Miscellaneous charitable relief ... None.
 Balance in hand will follow.

Section 26—

(i) Abstract of relief works—
 Form 5 ... Blank.
 (ii) Statement of gratuitous relief—
 Form 6 ... Herewith submitted.
 (iii) Combined abstract—
 Form 7 ... Ditto ditto.
 (iv) List of prices of principal food-grains. Statement submitted herewith.
 (v) Statements of imports and exports by railway. Will follow (not yet received for fortnight under report).
 Statement A—
 Form 10 ... Herewith submitted.
 Show death-rate for December thana by thana. Ditto ditto.
 Statement B—
 Form 11 ... Ditto ditto.

HAZARIBAGH,
 The 13th February 1897.

J. L. HERALD,
 Deputy Commissioner.

FORM 6.

[See Section 26 (ii) of the Code.]

DISTRICT HAZARIBAGH.

Statement of gratuitous relief for the half-month ending 31st January 1897.

NAME OF CIRCLE AND HEADS OF GRATUITOUS RELIEF.	NUMBER OF PERSONS RECEIVING GRATUITOUS RELIEF.				Money expended.
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Kitchens ...	...	...	...	...	Rs. A. P.
Hazaribagh ...	17	5	11	33	22 15 1½
Barhi ...	11	2	4	17	13 9 6
Total ..	28	7	15	50	36 8 7½

FORM 7.

[See Section 26 (iii) of the Code]

FAMINE STATEMENT E.

DISTRICT HAZARIBAGH.

Abstract statement of relief works and gratuitous relief for the half-month ending 31st January 1897.

WEEK.	A, B, C AND D WORKERS PAID BY TASK-WORK.				WORKERS PAID BY DAILY WAGES IRRESPECTIVE OF TASK.		Total amount disbursed on task-work and daily labour.	GRATUITOUS RELIEF.		Amount expended.
	Average number of male units per diem.	Work done per diem by each male unit.	Wage earned by each male unit per diem.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.	Average number of male units per diem.	Wage earned by each male unit per diem.		Number of adult unit in receipt of gratuitous relief.	Average dole.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Weeks ending 24th and 31st January 1897.	...	C. R.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	...	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	43½	Cooked meal	Rs. A. P. 36 8 7½

The 12th February 1897.

J. L. HERALD,
 Deputy Commissioner.

Statement showing the price of Mohua crop for both fortnights of January 1897.

NAME OF CROP.	SELLING PRICE.													
	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.
1	Under 13 seers per rupee.	Under 14 seers per rupee.	Under 14 seers per rupee.	Under 15 seers per rupee.	Under 16 seers per rupee.	Under 16 seers per rupee.	Under 17 seers per rupee.	Under 17 seers per rupee.	Under 18 seers per rupee.	Under 18 seers per rupee.	Under 19 seers per rupee.	Under 19 seers per rupee.	Under 20 seers per rupee.	Under 22 seers per rupee.
Mohua	Under 13 seers per rupee.	Under 14 seers per rupee.	Under 14 seers per rupee.	Under 15 seers per rupee.	Under 16 seers per rupee.	Under 16 seers per rupee.	Under 17 seers per rupee.	Under 17 seers per rupee.	Under 18 seers per rupee.	Under 18 seers per rupee.	Under 19 seers per rupee.	Under 19 seers per rupee.	Under 20 seers per rupee.	Under 22 seers per rupee.
	1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

NAME OF CROP.	SELLING PRICE.													
	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Previous fortnight.	Present fortnight.
1	Under 23 seers per rupee.	Under 24 seers per rupee.	Under 24 seers per rupee.	Under 25 seers per rupee.	Under 25 seers per rupee.	Under 26 seers per rupee.	Under 26 seers per rupee.	Under 27 seers per rupee.	Under 27 seers per rupee.	Under 28 seers per rupee.	Under 28 seers per rupee.	Under 29 seers per rupee.	Under 30 seers per rupee.	Under 33 seers per rupee.
Mohua	Under 23 seers per rupee.	Under 24 seers per rupee.	Under 24 seers per rupee.	Under 25 seers per rupee.	Under 25 seers per rupee.	Under 26 seers per rupee.	Under 26 seers per rupee.	Under 27 seers per rupee.	Under 27 seers per rupee.	Under 28 seers per rupee.	Under 28 seers per rupee.	Under 29 seers per rupee.	Under 30 seers per rupee.	Under 33 seers per rupee.
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

J. L. HERALD,
Deputy Commissioner.

FORM 10.

[See Section 27 (i) of the Code.]

Monthly Famine Statement A for the four weeks ending Saturday evening, the 30th January 1897.

DISTRICT.	Area.	Population in thousands.	Affected area.	Estimated population in thousands of area in column 4.	NUMBERS ON RELIEF WORKS ON LAST DAY OF MONTH.					Numbers on gratuitous relief.	PRICE OF ONE OR MORE PRINCIPAL FOOD-GRAINS IN SEERS PER RUPEE.			MONTHLY DEATH-RATE—		Dead during the month.
					Class A.	Class B.	Class C.	Class D.	Total.					In the district.	In the affected area.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Hazaribagh ...	Square-miles. 7,021	1,164	Square-miles. 1,750 <i>Vide this office No. 1379B., dated 20th January 1897.</i>	300	...	...	...	...	...	Daily average No. 34½.	8	9	10	2·54	3·62	

Statement showing the monthly death-rate in the Hazaribagh district, thana by thana, for the month of December 1896.

Names of towns and thanas.				Monthly death-rate per 1,000 of population.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hazaribagh town	2·57	30·84	
Chatra do.	3·06	36·72	
Hazaribagh thana	3·08	36·96	
Chatra do.	3·06	36·72	
Bagoder do.	3·07	36·84	
Simariah do.	2·97	35·64	
Kasmar do.	1·82	21·84	
Chowparan do.	2·60	31·20	
Juggessur do.	2·28	27·36	
Barhi do.	2·90	27·60	
Hunterganj do.	2·63	30·36	
Ramgher do.	2·28	27·36	
Tandwah or Bankagawan thana	2·89	34·68	
Gawan thana	2·26	27·12	
Giridih do.	1·93	23·16	
Dumri do.	3·01	36·12	
Kharuckdiha do.	2·18	26·16	
Koderma do.	3·28	39·36	
Whole District				2·64	30·48	

FORM 11.

[See Section 27 (ii) of the Code.]

Monthly Famine Statement B for the month, 31st January 1897.

DISTRICT.	Maximum number for whom employment on relief works is estimated to be required in case of serious famine.	NUMBER FOR WHOM RELIEF WAS PROVIDED IN LAST PROGRAMME OF RELIEF WORKS.		NUMBER FOR WHOM RELIEF CAN BE PROVIDED BY WORKS REMAINING ON PROGRAMME ON DATE OF REPORT.		EXPENDITURE SINCE 1st JANUARY 1897.			ADVANCES SINCE 1st JANUARY 1897, UP TO END OF MONTH UNDER—		Revenue suspended.
		On large works.	On small works.	On large works.	On small works.	Date up to which account is made up.	On relief works.	On gratuitous relief.	Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists' Loans Act.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Hazaribagh	70,000	9,855	61,005	9,855	61,005	31st January 1897	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 63 10 1½	Rs. A. P. Nil	Rs. A. P. Nil	Rs. A. P. Nil

J. L. HERALD,
Deputy Commissioner.

The 12th February 1897.

No. 95G.—S.R., dated Calcutta, the 13th February 1897.

From—E. V. WESTMACOTT, Esq., Commissioner of the Presidency Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

UNDER sections 13 and 24 of the Famine Code, I have the honour to submit herewith my report for the half-month ending 31st January 1897, together with the skeleton maps of the areas already affected, and likely to be affected, by scarcity in the districts of Nadia, Jessore, and Khulna, and the statements prescribed by the Famine Code.

24-PARGANAS.—The position in this district remains unchanged since my report No. 55G.—S.R., dated the 9th January 1897. For the present there is no necessity for relief.

NADIA.—I have recently visited the Meherpur subdivision of this district, and discussed the situation with Mr. Garrett, the Collector, and Mr. Weston, the Joint-Magistrate in charge of the subdivision, and with the District Engineer whose work has also been inspected recently by Mr. Connan, the Superintending Engineer. I have represented that Mr. Weston must be relieved of much of the work which now confines him to office, and must be set free to move about his subdivision. Mr. Garrett has been very active in supervising all the relief operations personally, but this duty must now be undertaken by Mr. Weston for his own subdivision. It appears probable that it may be necessary to extend operations and to increase the number of relief officers. I think that the circles as at present arranged are much too extensive. They are being remodelled.

Section 24 (1).—The area affected has increased from 379 square miles, with a population of 168,571 souls, to 815 square miles, with a population of 428,644. There are at present four circles under two Superintendents of charges. The second Superintendent, Babu Banamali Pramanick, has not yet joined, and only three out of the four circle officers appointed have joined. The Collector has asked for a fifth circle officer, and I have sent him one.

Section 24 (2).—The general condition of the affected tract in Nadia is reported to be gradually deteriorating. It is observed that food-stocks are being supplied principally by importation from the *Rark*, and it is estimated that this source of supply must be exhausted within two months. Some rice is also being imported from Dinajpur. The Collector has proposed to appoint a medical subordinate to each relief work, but as I have ascertained that very few, if any, labourers camp on the works, nearly all of them returning home at night, I do not think medical attendance necessary at present.

Section 24 (3).—Two test-works and two regular relief works under Civil Agency, and one relief work under the Public Works Department, were open during the fortnight under report. Each work is in charge of one of the subordinates of the District Engineer. In this district no relief work was paid for by daily wages, and there have been complaints of labourers not being paid before midnight. I have discussed this subject with Mr. Garrett, and more regular arrangements are being made.

No relief work under private agency was open during the fortnight under report.

Section 24, clauses (4) and (7).—No poor-houses or kitchens have been opened, and I do not at present think them necessary.

Section 24, clauses (5) and (6).—No arrangements for the employment of artisans, women, etc., at their homes in weaving, cotton-spinning or jute-twisting, or for the distribution of grain and money doles, had been made during the period under report, but are now being made.

Section 24, clause (8).—Rupees 15,950 were advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the period under report among 25 applicants. No advances were made under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. The Collector has not reported the system and security on which advances were given. He has been directed to supply the omission. It is difficult to complete the necessary enquiries respecting the numerous applications for loans. Every available officer is working at them, and other important works are at a standstill. But still the progress is very slow.

Section 24, clause (9).—The report made by the Collector under this head is not sufficient. It is stated that Rs. 12,463, including Rs. 800 paid by the Bengal Charitable Relief Fund, have been advanced, but no financial statements

as required under the clause have been submitted. He has been directed to submit such statements showing receipts, expenditure and balance, distinguishing between grants from the District Boards, from the Provincial Government and private subscriptions.

Section 24, clause (10) and (11).—There is nothing to add to the information as to the economic caution of the affected tracts given in previous reports. It is observed that the condition of the tracts outside those marked as affected in the map submitted gives cause for uneasiness, and the Collector is opening another test work.

Sections 26 and 27 of the Code.—The following errors and omissions are noticed in the report under sections 26 and 27 of the Code:—

- (i) The number of children and adult dependents unfit to work, and allowances given to the relief workers on their account under sections 83 and 84 of the Code, has not been shown in columns 26 to 29 of the Statement D. Government sanction was had some three weeks ago to the introduction of the system, and it is being gradually introduced.
- (ii) Statement of gratuitous relief (Form No. 6) does not show separately the amount expended for the whole period.
- (iii) Statement E does not appear to have been correctly prepared. Column 6 should agree with columns 20 to 23 of Statement D, reduced to male unit divided by six, and column 11 with column 6 of Form 6.
- (iv) Statements for imports and exports are not in the prescribed form.
- (v) Famine Statements A and B with the necessary particulars are not given.
- (vi) The information as to works likely to assist the water-supply as required by clause (iii) of section 27 is not full.
- (vii) In the statement showing rates of wages prescribed by the Government Circular No. 1, dated 6th January 1897, the "Lead and lift" have not been noted in the column of remarks as directed. The Collector has been directed to rectify the errors and supply the omissions noticed. I annex copy of Mr. Garrett's report, No. 2619G., dated the 4th February 1897.

MURSHIDABAD.—There is still no immediate need of relief in this district, a small number of labourers come to the relief works in the district of Nadia from villages in Murshidabad, but although some came from a distance of 5 or 6 miles, the numbers are too small to indicate extensive distress. The situation is being carefully watched, and test works have been opened within the border of Murshidabad. I shall travel through the district of Murshidabad next week. It is estimated that in about two months the present sources of supply of rice must be exhausted at the present rate of exportation.

JESSORE.—I annex herewith Mr. Hamilton's report No. 2947G., dated the 4th February 1897, under section 13 of the Famine Code.

Section 14, clause (1).—It is noted that considerable quantities of food stocks are being imported from the eastern districts and from Khulna by boats; that some able-bodied men migrated from Magura during the half-month under report in search of employment elsewhere. I have already ordered test works to be opened in the subdivisions of Magura and Bangaon, but Mr. Hamilton has not considered it necessary to do so, because he does not believe that any labourer would come to them. This does not indicate distress. It is also noted that money-orders for small amounts are received daily in post-offices from people who have gone away in search of employment, and, as the Collector suggests, the Postmaster-General might be asked to send weekly abstracts of these remittances in order to enable the local officers to know how much is so remitted. On the other hand, numbers of people are coming to Magura from elsewhere in search of employment in digging tanks for private individuals.

Section 14, clause (2).—In order to open a test work in thana Mahamedpur, a site has been selected by the Subdivisional Officer of Magura for digging a tank; but it is reported that the poor Musulmans who applied for taccavi loans would rather die than dig earth. I doubt whether they would adhere to this resolution if distress were really severe.

Section 14, clause (3).—Rupees 277-10, or about a rupee a head, were distributed on account of gratuitous relief among 278 persons during the period under report.

Some paddy-husking was done at Magura under section 45 of the Code. It is noted that some females refused to go to the Sub-Registrar who was charged with the duty of giving out materials. The Collector has been given to understand that they are not expected to do so, but that a system must be organised for supplying them with materials in their homes for their employment.

Section 14, clause (4).—The number of applications under the Agriculturists' Loans Act has risen from 324 for Rs. 54,567 to 422 for Rs. 61,820 in Magura. The Collector has not stated what amount of money was asked for by and given out in loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act. He has been directed to report specifically on this point. I have instructed the Collector that the agriculturists' loans should be given strictly under the provisions of section 4 of the Agriculturists' Loans Act, and the rules framed thereunder, and not with the object of keeping people in their homes doing nothing. I think that too great indulgence has been shown to people of the cultivating classes who are reluctant to work. As regards the land improvement loans, I have instructed the Collector that these should be given freely.

Mr. Hamilton has been active in moving about ever since he took charge of the district, and his diaries give me very full information. I do not think that even in the worst parts of Jessore there is any indication of such distress as is driving the people to relief works in Nadia.

KHULNA.—I annex copy of Mr. Vincent's memorandum No. 2538G., dated 1st February 1897, with copy of Mr. Bell's report No. 84S.C. of 30th January 1897, submitted therewith. It is very unfortunate that Mr. C. A. Bell, who was in charge of relief operations in the affected area, has broken down in health. Mr. Vincent has visited the area since taking charge of the district, and I think that sufficient arrangements are made for meeting distress, if it appears. But at present I do not consider that acute distress is indicated, and neither in Jessore nor in Khulna do I accept the theory that the actually cultivating classes—Muhammadans and Hindus—would rather die of starvation than labour on relief works.

Section 24, clause (1).—The area affected in this district remains the same as before, viz. 442 square miles, with a population of 262,000, and the number of relief circles remains unchanged. These are divided into two Superintendents' 'charges' with four circles in each charge. Six circle officers have been appointed by me, and two have been taken from the district staff. Both charges are now under one Superintendent only. The appointment of another Superintendent is under consideration.

Section 24, clause (2).—No remarks are necessary, as the information given on this head by the Collector is complete.

Section 24, clause (3).—Two relief works were opened when the fortnight commenced, and a third has been opened since. The number of labourers paid by daily wages and rates at which they were paid have not been given in the report, nor have they been distinguished according to the departments which are in charge of these works. The Collector has been directed to supply the information. There is no relief works under private agency.

Section 24, clauses (4) and (7).—No poor-houses or kitchens have been opened in this district, nor do I think they are necessary at present.

Section 24, clauses (5) and (6).—It is observed that grain contractors have been appointed under section 196 of the Code, and paddy has been given out for husking and jute for twisting, but the result has not yet been reported. Steps are also being taken for distribution of dolas in grain, and not in money, at each circle head-quarters.

Section 24, clause (8).—A sum of Rs. 275 only was advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act to two persons, but none under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. The system and security on which such advances were given have not been reported. The Collector has been directed to supply this omission, and to explain why so small a sum has been advanced.

Section 24, clause (9).—The financial statements show receipts from the district fund Rs. 1,000, and from private subscriptions Rs. 400—in all Rs. 1,400. Of this, Rs. 672 only were expended; so the balance in hand should be Rs. 727-15-6, and not Rs. 695-10-10½ as shown. The Collector has been directed to explain or reconcile the discrepancy.

Section 24, clauses (10) and (11).—The Collector furnishes no information as to the condition of the tracts outside those marked as affected in the map. He has been directed to make good the omission in his next half-monthly report.

Sections 26 and 27.—The following errors and omissions are noticed in the statements submitted by the Collector:—

- (i) The statement of gratuitous relief (Form 6) and Statement E are reported by the Collector to be inaccurate and incomplete.
- (ii) Statements of imports and exports in Forms 8 and 9 have not been given.
- (iii) Famine Statement A should show, in columns 3 and 5, figures in thousands, whereas in the report the exact figures are given.
- (iv) Famine Statement B has not been drawn up in accordance with the instructions given in Government Circular No. 173 (Fam.), dated the 25th January 1897.
- (v) No information has been given about any relief works calculated to improve the water-supply of the country, or the amount of loans, if any, advanced for this purpose. The Collector's attention has been drawn to these omissions.

No. 2619G., dated Krishnagar, the 3rd February 1897.

From—J. H. E. GARRETT, Esq., Collector of Nadia,
To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my report under section 24 of the Famine Code for the last half-month of January. This report deals with the figures for the weeks ending on the 23rd and 30th January.

(1) The area affected during the period under report was 815.25 square miles, the details of which are given below:—

				Sq. miles.
Kaliganj	...	...	...	109
$\frac{1}{2}$ Nakasipara	...	...	...	67.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ Chapra	...	...	...	65.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ Meherpur	...	...	...	66.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ Gangni	...	...	...	63.00
Karimpur	...	...	...	193.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ Daulatpur	...	...	...	72.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ Tehatta	...	...	...	135.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ Naopara	...	...	...	44.25
Total	...	...	...	815.25

The population of this tract is 428,644. In my opinion at least 8 per cent. of this population, amounting to 34,292 souls, are likely to require relief in some form or another up to date. Two charges under two Superintendents of Famine Relief have been constituted; they are known as the Mira and Shikarpur charges: the Superintendent of the Shikarpur charge has not yet joined his duties. Each of these charges are subdivided into two circles, known as the Kaliganj and Barnia Circles, under the Mira charge, and the Karimpur and Daulatpur Circles under the Shikarpur charge. Three of these circles have been manned, but the circle officer appointed to the fourth, viz., Daulatpur, has not yet joined his duties.

(2) The general state of the affected tracts is steadily deteriorating. The portion immediately surrounding Mira is perhaps the worst off, and in this portion the famine is severe. The prospects of all standing crops are bad; there were a few drops of rain on the evening of the 1st, but not enough to do any good. The *chaiti* or *har* is suffering more than I had anticipated from want of rain. A very large proportion of the land which was sown with *rabi* crops has since been ploughed up again, as the seed did not germinate. I do not think that there has been much drain on the food stocks, such as they are, during the period under report. The amount required for the daily consumption of the people has been obtained almost entirely from small importation from the *Rarh*. I have, however, noticed many carts passing through the distressed area bound for places east and south of it, and there can be no doubt that there is a very great drain upon the *Rarh*, and the surplus stocks there must very soon run out. Mr. Basu in his note styles the present system of importation as an admirable one; no doubt it might be so called if the stocks in the *Rarh* were unlimited: but as that stock must fall short within a very few weeks, I am of opinion that the present system of importation is a very unfortunate one, as it leads the people to believe that they need have no fears for the future, the consequence of which is that no attempts have yet been made to lay in stocks, or endeavour to arrange for supplies from other places. So far as I can see, there must be very serious trouble in the *Kalantar* when the supply of rice from the *Rarh* suddenly ceases. There is nothing calling for notice under the head of Emigration and Immigration of famished people. The public health continues good, and no cases of cholera have yet been reported from the distressed area. I am, however, of opinion that one Civil Hospital Assistant should be attached to each of the major works; so that some one may be at hand to deal with an epidemic, should one unfortunately break out. I am submitting a separate report on this point. The condition of the cattle continues good, but, owing to the want of rain, the grass is rapidly drying up, and there may be some difficulty for fodder later on in villages which have not got an ample supply of straw.

(3) Two relief works under Civil Agency were open in the *Kalantar* during the period under report, viz., construction of Meherpur to Kaliganj Road, and construction of Tehatta to Katwa Road. These works are being taken over by the Public Works Department with effect from the 1st instant. They will, however, remain under the general supervision of Babu Dwarkanath Sarkar, the District Engineer of this district. Another relief work, under the Public Works Department, was open at Taragonia on the Bhairamara-Taragonia Road during the period under report. Test works were opened under Civil Agency on the Meherpur-Gopalpur Road, and on the tank at Daulatpur. The appended statements give detailed figures in connection with all these works. No relief workers were paid by daily wages during the period under report. No relief works have been opened under private agency.

(4) There are at present no poor-houses in the distressed tract, and I hope not to be placed under the necessity of opening any.

(5) I have directed the Superintendent of the Mira charge to purchase a small supply of thread and iron to be made over respectively to a few weavers and blacksmiths in the Kaliganj thana, who are now in distress. No jute or cotton has actually yet been issued to women for work at their homes, but the distribution will commence during the current month. I have divided each circle into five or six centres, each of which will be visited by the circle officer on a fixed day in each week. The circle officer will then distribute gratuitous relief to non-workers, and also issue jute and cotton to women working in their own homes, receiving back that issued in the preceding week. By this means no person will have to walk more than 3 miles for relief, and that only once a week. At present some of the duties of the circle officers are being carried out by the police, but from the 15th instant all gratuitous relief, except that strictly under section 12, will be afforded by the circle officers. Figures in this connection will be found in the appended statements. The Superintendent of Famine Relief is also distributing relief to persons whose cases do not exactly fall under the Famine Code from sums granted to him from the District Charitable Relief Fund.

(6) I have dealt with this matter sufficiently under head 5.

(7) No kitchens have yet been opened, and I trust that it will not be necessary to open any, now that Government has sanctioned the relief of dependents by money payments to relief workers.

(8) The annexed statement will show the number of applications for loans under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts, filed during the half-month under report. It will be noticed that only one such application was filed during the corresponding period of last year. The total amount sanctioned during the period under report was Rs. 15,950 among 25 applicants, giving an average of Rs. 630-8 per man. No advance was made under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. Applications from villages within the distressed area are enquired into by circle officers: applications from other portions of the district are enquired into by Sub-Deputy Collectors or Kamungoes. If the enquiring officer reports favourably, the registry office is required to report whether the security offered is free from encumbrance, and it is only when this report also is favourable that the loan is sanctioned. I may add that enquiring officers are also required to report as to the necessity for the proposed improvement, and also whether it is possible with the sum applied for to carry it out satisfactorily.

(9) (a) The total sum advanced during the half-month under report was Rs. 12,463-9-3, including a sum of Rs. 800 from the Bengal Charitable Relief Fund.

(b) The statements of expenditure will follow. The accounts have not yet been properly adjusted, owing principally to the fact that expenditure was first incurred from District Board Funds, and then from Government funds.

(10) All the necessary information under this head has already been given in reports previously submitted.

(11) During the last two days I have been touring in South Nakasipara and North Kotwali, and I am of opinion that this tract also gives cause for uneasiness. I have ordered the opening of a test relief work under very stringent conditions, and I am inclined to think that it will shortly be necessary to constitute another circle for distribution of gratuitous relief.

(12) The statements, with the exception of those in forms 10 and 11 which will follow, and maps required by sections 25, 26 and 27 of the Code, are appended. The maps were coloured by the District Engineer. I have made a slight addition in blue pencil to the portions coloured blue by him.

(13) The only relief work calculated to improve the water-supply of the country is the re-excavation of the Daulatpur tank. I intend, however, shortly to undertake the re-excavation of all the Government tanks excavated during the last famine. The whole of the amount advanced under the Land Improvement Act was for excavation of tanks.

No. 2947G., dated Jessore, the 4th February 1897.

From—F. S. HAMILTON, Esq., Collector of Jessore,

To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

IN continuation of this office No. 2870G., dated 28th January 1897, submitting first half-monthly report, I have the honour to submit the second half-monthly report for January 1897 under section 13 of the Famine Code.

1. The general condition of the people of the tracts in thanas Mahamedpur and Bangaon, for which anxiety is felt, continues to be the same as reported already. There has been no improvement in the prospects of crops. *Rabi* crops are being harvested, but the outturns

are poor. Lands are being ploughed for *aus* and *aman* paddy in the Magura subdivision. Prices of rice show a tendency to rise. They now vary from 9 to 10 seers per rupee in different parts of the district, while in the preceding report it was noticed that the prices ranged between 9 to 11 seers per rupee. Food-stocks in hand are believed to be supplemented by importations from abroad as well as inter-district importations.

The following are the statistics supplied by Railway and Steamer Companies during the fortnight ending the 30th January 1897 :—

			Mds.
Exports of food-grains and pulses	...	...	8,903
Imports ditto ditto	...	...	4,738

The above figures show that there have been more exports than imports, but in certain places in the district considerable quantities of food-stocks are imported from the eastern districts and Khulna by boats. I am trying to make arrangements to collect such statistics, but have not yet been able to organise a system. As an instance, I would cite Basundia. I asked the outcherry naib to furnish me the statistics, and it has been found that no less than 2,950 maunds of food-stocks were imported into Basundia from other districts, while only 50 maunds were exported. If I succeed in making such arrangements in other important centres, viz., Jhinkergatcha, Keshabpur in Sadar, Kalia, Lohagara, Abhoy-nagore, Narail in Narail, and Nowhata, Mahamedpur, Benodpur and Magura in Magura, I shall be able to furnish fuller statistics in future. My belief is that importations into the eastern portion of the district are going on on a much larger scale by country boats from other districts than exports. Mr. Macleod is importing rice into Kotechandpur.

There has been no rainfall during the half-month under review; so far there has been no improvement in the prospect of future crops. Public health continues to be good generally, but there are sporadic cases of cholera here and there. Emigration and immigration of famished people is unknown. Certainly the time has not as yet come when famished people are forced to migrate; but numbers of people from the north-west of Jhenida go yearly to Calcutta for work at this season, and also from Magura to the Sundarbans; the same will be the case this year, probably on a larger scale. The Subdivisional Officer, Magura, reports some able-bodied men migrated during the half-month under review from his subdivision in search of employment abroad. A comparatively large number of money-orders for small amounts are received daily in the post office from those people, and those offices have been drawing largely from the sub-treasury for money-order payments. I think it would be well if the Postmaster-General were requested to issue orders to all postmasters in the districts to send us weekly abstracts of these figures. We should then be able to form an opinion of the amount of money coming into the district in this way. Similarly, numbers of people also come to this subdivision from abroad in search of employment in digging tanks for private individuals. The Subdivisional Officer of Bangaon reports a few bands of *Biharies* passed through his subdivision. They came there in quest of work, but failing to find any have left. The condition of cattle appears to be good. The Subdivisional Officer, Magura, however, reports that difficulties of fodder and scarcity of water will be felt later on if it does not rain soon.

2. No relief work has as yet been opened under the District Board or Municipal Committees, or under the Public Works Department. A test-work has been ordered to be opened towards the end of the month in Mahamedpur thana, and a site has been selected by the Subdivisional Officer for digging a tank. Arrangements are being made to start it. On this subject the Subdivisional Officer of Magura reports that he has made enquiries from very poor Muslims who form the bulk of the population and who came to him for agricultural loans or gratuitous relief works. But they said they would die before digging earth and degrading themselves, as their fathers never did such work. I am afraid this contains some truth, and the relief work will not attract a very large number of local people though they may attract outsiders. However, the above test-work will be started by the end of February, when I will report the result. No necessity is at present felt for starting any such work in Bangaon, but the Subdivisional Officer has been directed to arrange for sites, etc., in advance.

3. The following statement shows the numbers of men, women and children under gratuitous relief under section 12 of the Famine Code in the different subdivisions and Sadar :—

NAME OF SUBDIVISION.	Males.	Females.	Children	Total.	Money expended.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sadar	9	18	7	34	Ra. A. P. 14 6 0
Magura	47	94	37	178	170 12 0
Narail	18	19	29	66	92 8 0

The statement for Magura includes some persons who were relieved in the previous fortnight, but the accounts of whom were not received by the Subdivisional Officer, Magura, during that fortnight. The statement for Narail includes all money spent up to the 30th January 1897 from various sources. The statement for Sadar refers to all money spent during the two weeks to which the report refers. Up to this time the ordinary maximum rate at Magura was annas 8 per head for adults and annas 4 for children. But as these rates were found inadequate, the rates have been raised to Re. 1 and annas 8 for adults and children respectively. Under section 45 of the Famine Code, some paddy-husking was done at Magura. The subjoined statement shows the number of persons and the amount spent on this kind of relief :—

	Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.	Quantity of paddy used for husking.	Quantity of rice allowed as remuneration.	Value of rice allowed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Magura	11	8	19	Mds. 7	Srs. 20	Rs. A. P. 2 8 0

The number of children shown belong to the females who husked the paddy. Two seers of clean rice have been allowed as remuneration per maund of paddy husked. This sort of relief could not be given to a large extent, as the females refused to go themselves to the Sub-Registrars (to whom money has been advanced for this purpose) and carry the paddy to their homes and return the clean rice. It is now proposed to carry these to their homes. These works will rapidly increase in Mahamedpur, but the remuneration will have to be raised from two seers to four.

4. *Loans under the Agriculturists' Loans and Land Improvement Loans Acts.*—The number of applications under Agriculturists' Loans Act has risen from 324 for Rs. 54,567 to 422 for Rs. 61,620 in Magura. Ordinarily such applications are not received in other years. In Bangaon one application was made by a single man for Rs. 100, and it was rejected by the Subdivisional Officer. Under your demi-official orders I have announced that such reliefs cannot be given. The number of applications under the Land Improvement Loans Act has risen from two to ten in Magura. These applications were received at Sadar, of which one has been rejected, and the remaining two under enquiry. In Narail 1 and in Bangaon 3 have been received. They are all under enquiry.

5. A skeleton map is submitted herewith. The portion coloured brown shows the tracts at present considered affected. The portion coloured light blue shows the trarots which it is feared will be shortly affected. Another map will follow with the next report.

No. 2538 G., dated Khulna, the 1st February 1897.

Memo. by—The Collector of Khulna.

Copy forwarded to Commissioner. As I only joined on 28th January, I cannot offer any opinion of any value on the subject. I to-day proceed to Kaliganj to consult Mr. Bell. I have worked three days here in order to be sure my reports due on 1st were despatched to date.

Paragraph 2.—As you are aware, the number of circle officers has since been increased. As regards Charge Superintendents, I have already reported my views to Commissioner and will further report after visiting the area affected.

Paragraph 4.—As far as is ascertainable from the latest railway reports, more food is exported than imported into this district, but the quantities dealt with are insignificant. It is probable that more is done here in country boats than by any other means of transport.

Paragraph 7.—There is some cholera in Kaliganj. Civil Surgeon has submitted proposals on which action will be taken as soon as possible.

Paragraph 10.—I have been into this subject fully with District Engineer. The increase in the wages and of work done is satisfactory. I understand the soil is now getting harder and the rates will have to be increased. The rates here are slightly higher than Mr. Glass' rates. They were framed after calculation by the District Engineer.

Paragraph 11.—I agree mates should get one anna per day more than maximum wages in order to secure regular attendance and good work. The District Engineer is doing his best to get overseers. I have asked him to report about sakara.

Paragraph 14.—I am not quite sure if this part of Mr. Bell's proposal will work well. I will defer judgment till I have seen him and the results.

Paragraph 21.—Orders have been issued. The death-rate in the Sathkira subdivision for last quarter of calendar year was not higher than in the corresponding quarter last year as Civil Surgeon has reported me. I have not yet seen the returns.

No. 84SC., dated Camp Kaliganj, the 30th January 1897.

From—C. A. BELL, Esq., Subdivisional Officer, Satkhira,
To—The Collector of Khulna.

I HAVE the honour to submit my half-monthly report for the half-month ending 27th January 1897. The figures in this report relate to the fortnight ending on the 20th January 1897.

2. *Section 24 (1).*—The area affected is, as before, 442 square miles with a population of 262,000, and the number of circles, as before, eight. We are working, however, with four circle officers only, as of the six officers given me, one, a temporary man, deserted his post not liking the work, and another, a permanent man, got fever, left off work, and has applied for leave. I understand that four new circle officers are on their way. On their arrival they will be kept for a day or two to learn their work and then sent off to their respective circles. The work should then progress much more rapidly. Their chief work at present consists in enquiring into applications for loans, of which there are at present some 120 on hand, and in the preparation of the register of gratuitous relief (Form 13) after house-to-house enquiries in some 960 villages. I have one Charge Superintendent, *viz.*, Babu Banku Behari Bakshi, Deputy Collector, who is engaged in learning the work for the present. An additional area of some sixty square miles at a guess will have to be included later on, probably from the middle of March.

3. *Section 24 (2). General state, etc.*—The general condition of the people remains about the same as before. Harvest work is, practically speaking, at an end. Some of the poorer classes are living on the wages earned thereby; others are working in the Gutia Khali khal near Asasuni, a work under the control of the Public Works Department.

4. Food-stocks are small and rare.

5. Food is imported both from west and the east, where the crops appear to have been comparatively good.

6. No rainfall.

7. Public health good on the whole. No signs of emaciation among the people are visible. There is some cholera in the southern portion of Kaliganj thana. The Civil Surgeon appears to be of opinion that this is due not to want of food, but to the bad quality of the water drunk by the victims.

8. Emigration of famished people there is none, but a large number have been emigrated to avoid being famished. The Syamnagore Circle seems to have lost most, and I have myself seen many deserted houses in the Paikgacha Circle. This is a result of absentee landlordism. The embankments for keeping out salt water are neglected, and the raiyats have not sufficient stake in the land to make embankments themselves. It is probable that the free granting of loans will tend to prevent emigration by increasing the chances of next season's crops as well as by providing them with work in the meanwhile.

9. The condition of the cattle is excellent.

10. *Section 24 (3). Relief works.*—Two relief works, the same as before, were open throughout this half-month. A third, being at road at Issoripur in the Syamnagore Circle, was opened from 26th instant. Statements D, E, A, and B, are submitted. It will be noticed that the average work done by each male unit has risen from 27 to 61.52 cubic feet, and the cost per 1,000 cubic feet has fallen from about Rs. 4 to Re. 1-14-7. The figures show a great improvement on those of the preceding half month. One cause of the high cost of the work was the large proportion of D class men; another that the minimum and penal wage were not used so freely as I have directed in the case of short tasks.

11. The high rate of daily wage of those employed by daily wages is to be accounted for by the fact that these men are chiefly mates, who have been paid at high rates to ensure their coming regularly and understanding their work properly. The main body of the workers are as yet irregular in their attendance; but the mates have to keep the muster-roll for their gangs and must be induced to come regularly. I have ordered that for the present they should be paid 3 annas per day. I still await the two overseers and the two road-sarkars who were to have been here on the 16th instant. When they come, one of the two at present employed is, I understand from the District Engineer, to be taken away from famine work. At present, as the number of overseers is less than the number of relief works, and as it is not considered safe to entrust payment to road-sarkars, payments are being made bi-weekly instead of daily as formerly.

12. There are no relief works under private agency.

13. *Section 24 (4). Poor-houses.*—Nil, not required at present.

14. *Section 24 (5). Organization for the employment, etc.*—I have stored paddy and jute to the total amount of 127 maunds of paddy and 20 maunds of jute in 6 out of 8 circles. To supplement as required, I have appointed a grain contractor for each circle under section 196 of the Code. The circle officers will indent on these contractors, and the contractors' bills will be passed and paid by the Charge Superintendent. The paddy and jute so purchased will be distributed to those who come for gratuitous relief, and endeavours will be made to make all able-bodied men, women and children entitled to gratuitous relief do one or the other. With the high castes, however, difficulty is anticipated. I made an experimental distribution on the 28th instant in the South Kaliganj Circle, giving each adult 1½ maunds paddy or 5 seers jute, and each child ¾th maund paddy or 2½ seers jute. The result will be known on the 4th February. My present intention is to return to the paddy huskers whatever they can get over and above 16 seers out of every ¾th maund of paddy. This mode

of payment is in accordance with the custom of the people and therefore understood by them; it will avoid confusion in our registers, and the amount earned by women and children will, after allowing a small percentage of about 3 per cent. for the inferiority of paddy and for wastage, and on the assumption that moderately good paddy gives $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of its weight in rice, just cover their weekly dole; that is, 5 seers 14 chitaks for women and 2 seers 13½ chitaks for big children. Men will receive 7 chitaks in addition, and small children will be paid without working, or for some small task. I am now fixing dates for distribution at the other six centres. Hát days are being chosen as most convenient in every way.

15. The register of gratuitous relief is being pushed on as fast as possible and progress is being made, but the time of the circle officers is very largely taken up with enquiries into loans, which are numerous. When the other four circle officers arrive, progress will be accelerated. Those already admitted to the register will be expected to attend the weekly distribution.

16. It has been reported that some weavers in South Kaliganj Circle require assistance. The matter is being enquired into.

17. *Section 26 (b).*—Grain doles will be distributed for gratuitous relief weekly on the appointed day at each circle head-quarters. Money doles will not be given; the paddy-husking should supply us with plenty of rice for distribution. Relief Committees are being appointed, and five to ten gentlemen in each circle have been asked to lend their services. On replies being received the Committees will be finally formed, and it is hoped that they will prove useful in taking charge of small quantities of paddy and jute, and distributing the work and the relief in small areas distant from the head-quarters, so that the people residing in those areas may not have to come to the head-quarters. Their local experience should also prove useful in distinguishing deserving from undeserving cases.

18. *Relief in kitchens.*—Nil.

19. A financial statement is appended (Statement VIII).

20. *Section 24 (10).*—Since information under this sub-section was not supplied in my last half-monthly report, the following facts may be noted here. The affected tract grows only one crop; the winter rice—the soil appears to be naturally fertile, and when conditions are favourable the crop is very good. The population is not dense, and the holdings of land are fairly large. The normal condition of the people must be taken as prosperous. The crop, however, last year was poor, and this year about two annas only on a general average. Since there is neither *rabi* nor *bhadoi* crop to any appreciable extent, the distress, which at first presses less than in other places owing to the greater resources of the people, may be expected to increase until the new winter rice crop begins to be harvested next November, though a fall in prices, consequent on good *bhadoi* crops elsewhere, will no doubt afford relief to some. As regards its means of importing food the tract is favourably placed, since it lies across the main water highway between Calcutta and Eastern Bengal. This, added to the natural bent of the people for trading, will, I think, ensure a sufficiency of good supply throughout the different *hats* in the tract, and all we need do is to see that the people have enough money to buy at current prices. But on this general subject I would solicit attention to the recent report of the Assistant Director of Agriculture, who has dealt with the matter more fully and with greater ability than I can hope to do.

21. *Section 27 (1).*—I am unable to comment on the present death-rate in the affected tract, as the Magura and Paikgacha police officers have not supplied me with figures on the subject, although asked twice for them. The latter officer has consistently disregarded my requests, although no doubt he has received the warning, which I asked you to give him, as to the importance of these matters. I would ask you again to make him understand that the fact that this thana lies outside my subdivision does not relieve him of the necessity of attending to me in famine matters.

22. Statements Nos. II and III annexed show the amount sanctioned during the half-month for loans.

The circle officers when enquiring at first were not sufficiently careful in testing the security offered; they are now more careful, and a large number of applications are being and will be sanctioned during the next month. I cannot give figures as to the number of persons employed on the works thereby set in motion; but it is small at present and will increase largely during the next month. The works for which advances are applied for are, firstly, embankments to keep out salt-water; and secondly, tanks. On the number and efficiency of the embankments next year's crop may largely depend. I have sent out for re-enquiry a large number (probably 50 to 60) of applications for loans which were received by my predecessor, but not accepted. I have altogether some 120 applications under enquiry, besides a large number, perhaps 100 more, which have been filed in the wrong form and have been sent to the circle officers for taking in proper form. Zamindars as a rule do not come forward to take loans: they leave it to the tenure-holders and raiyats. The Mukundapur-Panohberia bñil is an instance in point. It contains some 5,000 to 6,000 bighas, and requires embanking; yet the managers of the zamindars, the latter being absentees, would not move in the matter, though apparently empowered to act in such cases. Babu Aghor Nath Banerjee, the Manager of Babu Kailas Chandra Pal, would not even see me or write to me on the subject, though he lives only three miles from my head-quarters.

23. *General remarks.*—I have but little to add. The Superintendent of Stationery has not yet sent me all the forms indented for on the 31st December, but a portion of them arrived a few days ago. The required statements are appended with one or two others which seemed advisable. They are in better order than last half-month's, though not yet all perfect. Form 6 is the worst; the police have already been ordered to discontinue submitting it to me direct, and fresh instructions will be issued to the circle officers to make them understand it properly. The deficiency of circle officers accounts partly for the deficiency in the returns, since four men have to do the work of eight.

FORM No. 5.

CIVIL AGENCY RELIEF WORK.

[See Section 26 (i) of the Code.]

FAMINE STATEMENT D.

DISTRICT NADIA.

For the half-month ending 31st January 1897.

Circle (or relief work or others.)	NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED ON TASK WORK.												NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED ON DAILY WORK IRRESPECTIVE OF TASK.								NON-WORKING CHILDREN (SECTIONS 53 & 54 OF THE CODE).		ADULT DEPENDENTS (SECTIONS 53 & 54 OF THE CODE).																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	A			B			C			D			Men.	Women.	Big children.	Small children.	Total amount paid.	Ra. A. P.	Total amount paid. (Total of columns 18 and 19.)	Number.	Amount paid.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
	Men.	Women.	Big children.	Small children.	Men.	Women.	Big children.	Small children.	Total amount of work done.	Ra. A. P.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
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Week ending 30rd January 1897.	4,450	1,165	1,063	2,404	3,216	310,437 0'	1,031 15 6	1,031 15 6

BELIEF WORKS UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Week ending 30th January 1897.																									Week ending 31st January 1897.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
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FORM No. 6.

[See Section 26 (ii) of the Code.]

DISTRICT NADIA.

Statement of gratuitous relief distributed in grain doles.

NAME OF CIRCLE AND HEADS OF GRATUITOUS RELIEF.	NUMBER OF PERSONS RECEIVING GRATUITOUS RELIEF.				Money expended.
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Week ending 23rd January 1897.</i>					
Circle No. 1, Kaliganj, under Chapter V	52	268	35	355	Rs. 73 1 3
Circle No. 2, Barnia, under Chapter V	25	67	37	129	19 0 9
Circle No. 3, Karimpur, under Chapter V	24	48	.....	72	.....
<i>Week ending 31st January 1897.</i>					
Circle No. 1, Kaliganj, under Chapter V	78	359	65	497	292 12 3
Circle No. 2, Barnia, under Chapter V	54	156	79	289	96 10 0
Circle No. 3, Karimpur, under Chapter V	33	67	11	111	.....
<i>DISTRIBUTION THROUGH POLICE.</i>					
<i>From 16th to 31st January 1897.</i>					
Daulatpur	228	967	.....	490	27 8 10
Nakashipara	142	437	189	768	30 13 3
Tehatta	.....	.....	.....	1,693	72 12 5
Kaliganj	27	.....	.....	27	1 5 11

FORM No. 7.

[See Section 26 (iii) of the Code.]

FAMINE STATEMENT E.

DISTRICT NADIA.

Abstract Statement of relief works and gratuitous relief for the half-month ending 31st January 1897.

WEEK.	A, B, C AND D WORKERS PAID BY TASK WORK.				WORKERS PAID BY DAILY WAGES IRRESPECTIVE OF TASK.		Total amount disbursed on task work and daily labour.	GRATUITOUS RELIEF.		Amount expended.
	Average number of male units per diem.	Work done per diem by each male unit.	Wage earned by each male unit per diem.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.	Average number of male unit per diem.	Wage earned by each male unit per diem.		Number of adult male in receipt of gratuitous relief.	Average dole.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		C. ft.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Ch.	Rs. A. P.
Week ending 23rd January 1897	3,045	30-12	0 1 4-7	2 14 1½	NH	NH	2,109 3 9	3,598	5-8	3 0 0
Week ending 31st January 1897	3,285	21	0 1 11-3	4 14 4	8½	0 1 10½	3,200 2 7½			

Relief works under Public Works Department.

BHRAMARA TO TARAGONIA ROAD.										
Week ending 23rd January 1897	1,180	47-52	0 2 0	2 10 3	NH	NH	147 10 0			
Week ending 31st January 1897	3,192	46-50	0 2 0	2 11 3	NH	NH	899 0 6			

TEST-WORK.

Statement showing the daily and the average number of persons on the Meherpur to Gopalpur Road during each week of the half-month ending 31st January 1897.

Meherpur to Gopalpur Road.

Date.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
16th January 1897	668	5	471	1,144	
17th "	739	4	526	1,269	
18th "	734	4	502	1,240	
19th "	728	4	498	1,230	
20th "	765	10	526	1,301	
21st "	561	7	417	985	
22nd "	488	8	414	910	
23rd "	593	14	495	1,102	
Total	5,276	56	3,849	9,181	
Daily average of the week	669.5	7	491.13	1,147.62	
Ditto ditto corresponding week of the last half-month	329	.....	167.5	496.5	
24th January 1897	504	17	416	937	
25th "	549	8	450	1,007	
26th "	467	16	415	898	
27th "	483	14	413	910	
28th "	506	20	428	952	
29th "	541	21	457	1,019	
30th "	339	.....	353	692	
Total	3,389	96	2,930	6,415	
Daily average of the week	484.14	13.71	432.35	916.42	
Ditto ditto corresponding week of the last half-month	629.12	62	322.75	852.52	

TEST-WORK.

Statement giving the daily and the average number of persons on Relief Work opened on the Daulatpur tank during each week of the half-month ending 31st January 1897.

Daulatpur tank.

Date.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
16th January 1897	70	3	93	165	
17th "	80	3	91	174	
18th "	97	5	124	226	
19th "	100	9	141	250	
20th "	146	10	163	319	
21st "	196	13	184	393	
22nd "	234	13	191	448	
23rd "	277	29	237	543	
Total	1,200	89	1,324	2,613	
Daily average of the week	160	11.12	163	314.12	
Daily average of the corresponding week of the last half-month	.....	.....	.....	.....
24th January 1897	336	43	307	686	
25th "	351	56	331	737	
26th "	410	79	376	865	
27th "	503	107	456	1,066	
Total	1,600	284	1,470	3,354	
Daily average of the week	400	71	367.5	838.5	
Daily average of the corresponding week of the last half-month	149.5	75	105.12	355.37	

Average price of crops for the

Names of crops.			Fortnight ending 31st January 1897.	Fortnight ending 15th January 1897.
1			2	3
			Per Rupee. S. CH.	Per Rupee. S. CH.
Wheat	...	...	10 10½	9 14½
Barley	...	...	11 8	11 8
Rice	...	...	9 0	9 5
Gram	...	...	10 9½	11 1½
Arhar	...	...	16 5½	16 6
Salt	...	...	10 3½	10 3½

FORMS 8 & 9.

Statement showing the Export and Import of Food-grain of the following stations for week ending 30th January 1897.

Name of Station.			Export.	Import.
1			2	3
			Mds. s.	Mds. s.
Alamdanga	...	...	2,860 0	5,203 0
Joyrampur	...	...	500 0	486 0
Bagula	...	...	48 26	25 10
Ramnagar	...	...	1,935 0	520 0
Aranghata	...	...	.....	8 0
Madanpur	...	...	.....	.....
Chuadanga	...	...	1,817 0	910 0
Banpur	...	...	1,320 0	.....
Bharamara	...	...	1,957 0	4,572 0
Damukdea ghat	...	...	3,488 0	.....
Halsa	...	...	699 0	2,933 0
Chagda	...	...	.....	36 0
Krishnaganj	...	...	721 0	1,618 0
Ranaghat	...	...	39 0	639 0
Kumarkhali	...	...	.....	3,051 20
Shareepganj	...	...	5,500 0	6,585 0
			20,884 26	26,586 30

Statement showing the rates of wages paid on Relief Works (including test-work) and tasks exacted.

DISTRICT.		RATES OF DAILY WAGES AND TASK.										Grain on which wage calculated under section 104 of the Fanning Code.	Retail price of the grain in column 12 (number of seers for a rupee.)	Rates per 1,000 cubic feet of earth-work.	REMARKS.
		Men.		Women.		Big child.		Small child.		Adult male unit.					
		Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Average wage.	Average task.				
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
NADIA.	Maximum ...	As. P. 2 0	C. ft. 66'6	As. P. 1 6	C. ft. 45	As. P. 1 0	C. ft. 33'3	As. P. 0 2	Clod break- ing.	As. P. 1 8	C. ft. 25'53	Coarse rice.	Srs. 10	Rs. A. 1 14	Most of the small about three-fourths big children, and women break clods and solidate earthwork wooden and bamboo. The D class adults mostly do task-work of roads.
	Minimum ...	1 6	45	1 5	33	1 0	25	0 2	Ditto	...	...		

Applications received from 16th to 31st January 1897.

THANA.	LAND IMPROVEMENT LOANS.		AGRICULTURAL LOANS.	
	Number of applications.	Amount.	Number of applications.	Amount.
1	2	3	4	5
Kotowali	9	Rs. 5,150	68	Rs. 6,382
Hanskhaly	7	5,100	24	1,605
Krishnaganj	3	3,000	16	1,881
Chapra	3	7,000	22	1,616
Nakashipara	7	12,500	2	565
Kaliganj	6	1,461	6	1,300
Meherpur	1	1,200	2	350
Tehatta	9	7,950	60	4,163
Karimpur	2	1,500	.....	.....
Gangni ... ..	.....	.....	6	1,100
Chuadanga	2	1,200	.....	.....
Damurhuda	1	1,000	.....	.....
Kushtia ... ..	.....	.....	1	300
Kumerkhali	1	1,000	.....	.....
Daulatpur	3	1,900	.....	.....
Total	54	49,961	207	19,252

There was only one application for land improvement loan during the corresponding period of last year.

W. MAXWELL,
for Collector.

STATEMENT I.

Statement showing the prices of common rice for the fortnight ending 27th January 1897.
[Famine Code, Section 26 (iv).]

Name of Circle.	Name of mart.	Price on last hat day.	Normal price at Satkhira (filled up from Sadar).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
South Kaliganj ...	Kaliganj ...	8. CH. 10 5	As per prices-current return for the half-month ending 28th January 1897 (Satkhira), 10 seers a rupee.	This statement will be fuller next half-month, when the full number of circle officers has arrived.
North Kaliganj ...	Khanja ...	10 0		
Syamnagore ... {	Nowbanki ...	10 8		
	Nakipur ...	10 4		

STATEMENT II.

LAND IMPROVEMENT LOANS.

For the half-month ending 27th January 1897.

PERIOD.	Number of applications pending from before.	Applications filed during half-month.	Applications rejected or struck off.	APPLICATIONS GRANTED.		Applications pending.	REMARKS.
				Number of applications.	Amount advanced.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Half-month ending 27th January 1897.	69	.....	2 (a)	275 (b)	57 (c)	(a) Eight applications have been sanctioned after close of the half-month for a total amount of Rs. 4,200, and several petitions, including one for Rs. 5,000, will be sanctioned in a day or two. (b) Out of Rs. 550 granted. (c) Some 50 or 60 applications formerly rejected by Babu Gati Krishna Neogi, late Sub-divisional Officer, have been sent out again for re-enquiry since the close of the half-month.
TOTAL	69	.....	2	275	57	

STATEMENT III.

AGRICULTURAL LOANS.

For the half-month ending 27th January 1897.

PERIOD.	Number of applica- tions pending from before.	Applications filed during half- month.	Applications reject- ed or struck off.	APPLICATIONS GRANTED		Applications pend- ing.	REMARKS.
				Number of appli- cations.	Amount advanced.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Half-month end- ing 27th Janu- ary 1897.	3	.....	.....	.....	3	
TOTAL	3	.....	.....	.....	3	

STATEMENT IV.

FORM 6.

[See Section 26 (ii) of the Code.]

DISTRICT KHULNA.

Statement of gratuitous relief for the half-month ending 27th January 1897.

NAME OF CIRCLE AND HEADS OF GRATUITOUS RELIEF.		NUMBER OF PERSONS RECEIVING GRATUITOUS RELIEF.				Money expended.
		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	
Period.						
1		2	3	4	5	6
Week ending 20th January 1897	...	23	63	56	142	Rs. A. P. 86 8 0
Week ending 27th January 1897	...	5	19	9	33	33 9 6

Note.—The smallness of the figures in the second week is due partly to the returns for this week being incomplete, partly owing to the Police giving less than in the first week, when they relieved without sufficient discrimination. The return cannot be accepted as quite accurate; persons who have received relief for one day only having been entered in the Police returns equally with those who have received for the whole week. I have taken the return wholly out of the hands of the Police, and this will ensure greater accuracy in future.

STATEMENT IX.

FORM 10.

[See Section 27 (i) of the Code.]

Monthly Famine Statement A for the four weeks ending Wednesday evening, the 27th January 1897.

DISTRICT.	Area.	Population in thousands.	Affected area.	Estimated population in thousands of area in column 4.	NUMBERS ON RELIEF WORKS ON LAST DAY OF MONTH.					Number on gratuitous relief.	PRICE OF ONE OR MORE PRINCIPAL FOOD-GRAINS IN SEERs PER RUPEE.			MONTHLY DEATH-RATE—		Deaths due to starvation.
					Class A.	Class B.	Class C.	Class D.	Total.		Common rice.			In the district.	In the affected area.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Calcutta ...	2,077	1,177,652	442	262,000	33	107	...	7	147	142 (a)	8. 10	4	...	...	...	Nil.

This statement will relate to the period between the last Saturday of the previous month and the last Saturday of the month under report.
 (a) Refers to the week ending 20th January 1897.
 (b) Columns 15 and 16 may be filled up at Sadar.

STATEMENT X.

FORM II.

[See Section 27 (ii) of the Code.]

Monthly Famine Statement B for the four weeks ending Wednesday evening, the 27th January 1897.

DISTRICT	Maximum number for whom employment on relief works is estimated to be required in case of serious famine.	NUMBER FOR WHOM RELIEF WAS PROVIDED IN LAST PROGRAMME OF RELIEF WORKS.		NUMBER FOR WHOM RELIEF CAN BE PROVIDED BY WORKS REMAINING ON PROGRAMME ON DATE OF REPORT.		EXPENDITURE SINCE 1st APRIL 1896.			ADVANCES SINCE 1st APRIL 1896, UP TO END OF MONTH UNDER—		REVENUE SUSPENDED.
		On large works.	On small works.	On large works.	On small works.	Date up to which account is made up.	On relief works.	On gratuitous relief.	Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists' Loans Act.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Calcutta ...	(a) 3,900,000 persons for one day.	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	During half-month up to 31st January 1897	Rs. A. P. 100 6 9 394 2 6	Rs. A. P. 196 9 9 135 11 4	Rs. A. P. (c) 275 0 0	(c) Nil	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	494 9 3	332 5 1	...	...	...

(a) See my No. 26 R.S.G., dated 25th January 1897; half the total number who will require relief is estimated to require employment on relief works.
 (b) Columns (3) to (6) cannot be filled up for want of the information asked for in my No. 26 in this connection. It may be filled up at Sadar.
 (c) The figures for the Magura Circle not having been received for the period previous to the half month, the actual amount spent under this head could not be given.
 (d) The figures from all the officers to whom advances were made not having been received, the actual figure could not be given.
 (e) Figures given for half-month only. Previous figure might be obtained from Sadar Treasury.

C. A. FELL,
 Subdivisional Officer.

FORM II.

[See Section 27 (ii) of the Code].

Monthly Famine Statement B for the four weeks ending Wednesday evening, the 27th January 1897.

District.	Maximum number for whom employment on relief works is estimated to be required in case of serious famine.	NUMBER FOR WHOM RELIEF WAS PROVIDED IN LAST PROGRAMME ON RELIEF WORKS.		NUMBER FOR WHOM RELIEF CAN BE PROVIDED BY WORKS REMAINING ON PROGRAMME ON DATE OF REPORT.		EXPENDITURE SINCE 1st APRIL 1896.			ADVANCES SINCE 1st APRIL 1896, UP TO END OF MONTH UNDER—		REVENUE SUSPENDED.
		On large works.	On small works.	On large works.	On small works.	Date up to which account is made up.	On relief works.	On gratuitous relief.	Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists' Loans Act.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
(Vide Subdivisional officer's figures)		Nil	(a) 1,436	Nil	1,764 for 90 days or 2,016 for the remaining two months of the year.		.....	.....	.....	.....	—

(a) The number of male units for 90 days.
(b) The figures have been converted into a dult male units.

H. D. CHATTERJEE,
District Engineer, Khulna.

SREENATH GUPTA,
Deputy Collector in charge.

STATEMENT VI.

Form 7.

[See Section 26 (iii) of the Code.]

FAMINE STATEMENT E.

DISTRICT KHULNA.

Abstract Statement of relief works and gratuitous relief for the half-month ending 27th January 1897.

WEEK.	A. B. C. AND D WORKERS PAID BY TASK- WORK.				WORKERS PAID BY DAILY WAGES IRRESPECTIVE OF TASK.		Total amount disbursed on task work and daily lab. ur.	GRATUITOUS RELIEF.		Amount expended.
	Average number of male units per diem.	Work done per diem by each male unit.	Wage earned by each male unit per diem.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.	Average number of male unit per diem.	Wage earned by each male unit per diem.		Number of adult unit in receipt of gratuitous relief.	Average dole.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		C. ft.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Week ending 20th January 1897	46.00	47.28	0 1 0	3 4 6	4.91	0 8 9	33 9 9	(a) 114	(a) 0 13 1	85 8 9
Week ending 27th January 1897	56.73	61.53	0 1 10	1-14 7	5.41	0 3 1	66 13 0	(a) 235	(a) 1 0 3	33 9 6

(a) Form 6 being inaccurate, columns 9 and 10 of this return cannot be depended on.

STATEMENT VII.

Statement showing rates of wages paid on Relief Works (including test works), tasks executed.

DISTRICT.	RATES OF DAILY WAGES AND TASKS.										Grain in which wage calculated under Section 104 of the Famine Code.	Retail price of the grain in column 12 (number of seers for a rupee.)	Rate per 1,000 cubic feet of earth- work.	REMARKS.
	MAN.		WOMAN.		BIG CHILD.		SMALL CHILD.		ADULT MALE.					
	Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Average wage.	Average task.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	As. P.	C. ft.		C. ft.	As. P.	C. ft.	As. P.		As. P.				Rs. A. P.	
Maximum	8 0	66	.....	61	1 0	39	0 6	....	1 10(b)	01 52(c)	Common rice.	10 seers per rupee.	1 14 7(a)	Lead shaft Lift sh.
Minimum	1 6	....	....	....	0 9	.....	0 6	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

(a) From column 8 of Statement E.
(b) From column 4 of ditto.
(c) From column 3 of ditto.

STATEMENT VIII.

Financial Statement required by Section 24(9), Famine Code, for Khulna District for the half-month ending 27th January 1897

FOR WEEK.	A.—RECEIPT FROM				B.—EXPENDITURE FROM PUBLIC FUND IN							C.—BALANCES OF FUNDS IN HAND FROM		
	(a) District Board grant.	(b) Government grant.	(c) Private subscription.	(a) Relief work (clause 3) for	(b) Relief on poor-houses (clause 4).	(c) Relief of artisans, etc., (clause 5.)	(d) Relief by grain or money doles (clause 6).	(e) Relief in kitchens (clause 7).	(d) Other miscella- neous charitable relief.	Purchase of paddy and jute.	Contingent charge.	(a) District Board grant.	Government grant.	Private subscription.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Ending 20th January 1897	Rs. 1,000	.....	Rs. 400	Rs. A. P. (a)	Rs. A. P.	.....	Rs. A. P. (b)	.....	(c)	375	Rs. A. P. 76 7 6	Rs. A. P. 687 10 10 Vide note (b).	.....	Rs. Vide (c).
				5 2 6	28 7 3		86 8 9							
				6 3 0	60 10 0		33 9 6							
				11 5 6	89 1 3		120 2 3							

(a) The amount under this head was paid by the overseer in charge of relief works from a fund supplied by the District Engineer. The amount on relief work in the South Kaliagarj Circle up to 18th January 1897 is Rs. 394-2-6.

(b) Out of Rs. 1,000 granted by the District Board, Rs. 120-2-3 were spent on gratuitous relief, Rs. 76-7-6 on account of contingent charges, Rs. 199-9-9 were expended during the half-month, and Rs. 135-11-4 were spent on gratuitous relief previous to the fortnight under report, making a total of Rs. 332-5-13, leaving a balance of Rs. 667-10-10. In the absence of the returns from all the officers to whom advances were made, the exact balance in hand could not be given.

(c) The purchase of paddy and jute was made from the amount of private subscriptions.

No. 292R.Ct., dated Camp Bardalia, Araria subdivision, district Purnea, the 1st February 1897.

From—W. B. OLDHAM, Esq., C.L.E., Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division and Sonthal Parganas,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

IN continuation of my No. 278R., dated Kharagpur, in the Monghyr district, the 1st January 1897, I have the honour to report the state of affairs in this Division on the 31st January 1897.

2. *Monghyr, Purnea, Malda and Sonthal Parganas.*—In the Purnea district, from where I now write, there has been no change. In Malda, on the 18th January 1896, there was an alarm of distress in that tract on the border of the Rajshahi district which is under special observation, and a test relief work was opened, but no one would resort to it, and it was closed. It was ascertained that the people who had asked for it could still earn $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas a day as wages in the vicinity. So there has been no change in Malda. From the Sonthal Parganas and from the Monghyr district no change is reported. The Collector of Monghyr, Mr. Marriott, has meanwhile given the report on stocks of food-grains required by Government order No. 7T.—R., dated 3rd November 1896, and has estimated that there will be a deficiency in round figures of over 4,00,000 maunds in his district. Mr. Marriott, however, does not say if he himself believes in the accuracy of this estimate, which has been prepared by taking

* Apparently 6 annas. Will follow when ascertained.

the maximum formula for consumption, and a calculation of only * annas for the *rabi* crop. But he is confident that, making the fullest allowance for exportations, there was a full supply of food for two months in hands in all parts of his district on the 1st November last. As every populated part of the Monghyr district is supplied with good means of communication by either water, rail or road, there is no anxiety about the adequate supply of any deficit, which may actually occur there, not being made up from outside, while his calculations have not induced the Collector to make any change so far in his estimate of the extent of the distress that may be expected, or the adequacy of the local means for meeting it. In his absence on tour and in compliance with an urgent call from Government, I estimated for him on the 11th January that he would require an extra grant, before the 1st of April next, of Rs. 5,000 for agricultural loans, and of Rs. 20,000 for the same purpose for the period from April to November, and in this estimate he has since concurred.

The report on stocks has not yet been received from the Sonthal Parganas. When given, it will doubtless carry matters up to date, and be less founded on guess work than those submitted for the other districts. I wait its submission before forwarding the reports for this Division with my remarks.

3. *Bhagalpur.*—I have been on tour with Mr. McIntosh, the Collector of Bhagalpur, from the 14th to 30th January, and have traversed all those tracts in the Madhipura and Supaul subdivisions, which we believe to be threatened with scarcity. The result is that I concur in Mr. McIntosh's forecast, and, in consultation with me, he has definitely framed his estimates of expenditure, and of the demands on it, and the time for which they will be made, and I now beg to submit copies of his successive reports No. 1874G., dated 21st December 1896, and No. 15G., dated 28th January 1897, under section 9, Chapter II of the Famine Code, with the following remarks.

4. Till I had visited them, I had not realized the social conditions of these tracts which affect largely their economic conditions, and the kind of relief which is best adapted for them. The soil is so poor that most of it is most suited for the production of indigo which used to be extensively cultivated, but has been given up, very much because of the social conditions which prevail. The population which, for the same reasons, is extraordinarily free from crime, and is wholly agricultural, falls into the following three classes:—

- (1) Brahman and Rajput raiyats.
- (2) Middle class raiyats, who are nearly all Goala.
- (3) Low caste petty raiyats and farm-labourers, who are nearly all Jolaha and Musahar, with a very few Dosadhs.

I know no part of India where the multiplication or variety of castes is so small, and the clearly defined social divisions so few. The country belongs to Mithila or old Tirhut, and contains nearly all the numerous Brahmans and Rajputs of the Bhagalpur district. The former are the ordinary Maithili Brahmans, and though they may not work, they can receive alms when given with due regard to their susceptibilities. But the social pretensions of the Rajputs are far higher than those of the scattered families and individuals who are known by this name elsewhere in Bengal. The North Bhagalpur Rajputs are a single *Sa-gotra* tribe, all of the clan of the Maharaja of Sonbarsa, the Raja of Baruari, and other local zamindars, and acknowledged by these Chiefs as their kinsmen. The fact accounts for their being excessively bad tenants and also prone to extravagance, and bad men of business, but they are skilled farmers, and agriculture is their sole occupation, and they are good employers of labour. They will not work with their hands, and they will not receive alms, and it was they and the Brahman raiyats alone who complained of distress, and their commonest complaint was that their labourers had left them and gone to earn elsewhere the wages which they could no longer afford to give. They clamoured for advances; and though among these noisy applicants there were doubtless many whose needs arose from their own extravagance, or from ordinarily reduced circumstances, or who wanted loans from Government for other purposes than those connected with relief, it is certain that there are whole communities and many individuals, who will suffer severely unless relieved, in consequence of the losses of their crops, while the only means of relieving them can be by advances, either from Government for the tillage of their farms, or, under the name of loans, from charitable funds. It is obvious that the demand on our relief works will decrease in proportion to the extent to which these employers of labour will be able to afford it. In 1874 the loans in grain in the Bhagalpur district were threefold the amount of grain spent in wages of labour, and more than that expended in charitable relief, while the loans in cash exceeded the cash spent on charitable relief, and were about three-fourths of the sum spent in wages of labour. In 1889 Rs. 17,500 in round figures were advanced by Government as loans, while it spent only Rs. 1,400 on relief works and in gratuitous relief. In 1891 over Rs. 37,000 were advanced as loans, and in consequence the relief works, the attendance on which had risen to over 12,000, were finally closed in August. As far as I can learn, there has been no difficulty in recovering these advances. All these reasons will explain why the Collector and I look so much to loans to agriculturists for affording the relief which will have to be given in North Bhagalpur. In compliance with my request made from Supaul by telegram, the Board of Revenue have already placed at his disposal an additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 for the current year, which will suffice, with the sums already given, till the end of March.

5. Of the three classes who compose the population of North Bhagalpur, these Rajput and Brahman raiyats will be the first to feel the pinch and to need relief, though there are still no signs of distress among them beyond their own complaints. The middle class of raiyats have made no sign, and there need be no anxiety about them. They are as substantial as their Brahman and Rajput neighbours, without the extravagance and need for display of the latter, and are frugal and, as a rule, excellent business men. Individuals among them may be found to be fit recipients for loans, while there is nothing to deter any of them from relief works if need be. Many of them have largely profited by the famine prices, and this is also the case with several of the Brahman raiyats. The low caste people also express no fear. From frequent recent experience they know that work will be found for them, either by private employers or by Government, when the time comes, and they still regard that time as comparatively distant.

6. The general estimate is that there will be no need of real relief works till March. Much of course depends on any intermediate rain. Even without rain an 8-anna *rabi* crop is counted on, and these local estimates we know to be much under the mark. Comparing the past season with previous bad years, it is said that the failure of crops is much less than that of 1873, but considerably more than those of 1888 or of 1891. The general opinion of those best able to form one is that in extent the failure was about

halfway between that of 1873 and that of 1891. The rainfall figures for Madhipura, which I produce below, would lead to a different calculation; but all such data are upset by the poverty of the soil in the tracts reported on, which makes the crops on it precarious unless the rain falls exactly at the time and in the way best suited to them, and will keep them, except in the most favourable seasons, subject to failures and famine.

Madhipura—Rainfall in September, October and November.

1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
2.44	3.63	21.65	14.37	9.67	10.71

7. I have not yet been able to see the comparatively small threatened area in the southern half of the Bhagalpur district, but, after examining his reports for the rest of his charge, am confident that Mr. McIntosh's estimate of its position and prospects is as correct a one as could be framed. It has no such social economic peculiarity as the Rajput raiyats of North Bhagalpur, but the only point regarding it on which I have no information is as to the part which private charity will play in it. In North Bhagalpur this will be very important. I have separately reported from Madhipura the munificence of Maharaja Harballab Narain Singh Bahadur, of Sonbarsa, as well as his undertaking for his own tenantry. In the Maharaja of Darbhanga's and the Raja of Banali's Estates in North Bhagalpur preparations are being made and inquiries instituted, and the tenantry will be similarly looked after. The Raja of Baruari and several of the Rajput zamindars have promised that they will do the same, while Rai Ganpat Singh Sahib, who owns the great Harawat pargana in the east of the Supaul subdivision, is prepared to undertake very considerable expenditure and the most systematic working. The areas so undertaken are being marked off, and, as matters progress, it can be ascertained exactly what is the kind of relief that is administered in them. Rai Ganpat Singh proposes to open relief kitchens of his own. Looking to the character of the population and our previous and frequent experience, it is not anticipated that this form of relief will have to be resorted to from any public funds. In this connection it may be mentioned that the residents of Madhipur subscribed to give a feast to the poor on the 20th January last in my honour and the form in which the bounty was distributed was half a seer of uncooked rice to each person. Though this "feast" was publicly proclaimed for some days, it attracted only between 50 and 60 professional beggars, including mendicant priests, and only one-fourth of the grain brought for distribution was distributed.

8. In paragraph 7 of his report of the 23th January 1897, Mr. McIntosh mentions that he has referred to me the question of what the proper wages on test relief works should be ordinarily under section 103 of the Famine Code. Bhagalpur would be declared to be a second class district. In the special circumstances of this season, with its enormous exportations, there is some doubt if this decision will hold, and if rice will not be the only food easily procurable. There need be no haste in coming to a decision, as at present *kurthi* or *vetch* which is a valuable adjunct to the food-supply, is being sold at 2½ seers for the rupee in the affected tracts, and the district is still classed as second class and the 5 pice wage for men is the proper one. Another matter in which I cannot yet state the exact requirements is that of additional establishment. In paragraph 12 of his report of the 21st December 1896, Mr. McIntosh said that a Sub-Deputy Collector and two more kanungos were wanted for the Supaul subdivision, and a Sub-Deputy Collector and four kanungos for the Madhipura subdivision, and a Sub-Deputy Collector and two kanungos for the head-quarters tract, or in all three additional Sub-Deputy Collectors and eight kanungos. Events have shown that these requisitions were premature. Meanwhile I have been able to find two Sub-Deputy Collectors, one each for the subdivision, to have charge of the sub-treasuries and current work while the Subdivisional Officers are on tour. The undertakings given by the zamindars will for some time limit the duties for a very large part of the area to

observation. The Bongong thana, which is the centre of the largest area threatened with distress, is the head-quarters of Mr. H. D. Christian, the Manager of the Lagma Ward's Estate, who is willing to undertake relief duties in that tract, and would be a far better agent than a kanungo or Sub-Deputy Collector. If he is to be employed, the terms of his appointment will be proposed to Government in imitation of the scheme sanctioned for Bihar. Meanwhile he is available as a referee and for more or less casual assistance. In reply to your telegram, which I received on the 30th ultimo at Forbesganj, I have reported that, with the existing staff of the Division retained, I should eventually require in addition the services of three Deputy Collectors and six Sub-Deputy Collectors (or officers of the same standing); but most of these officers, if given, will be wanted for the Sonthal Parganas, on the staff of which both Government and I have been drawing. Meanwhile I have explained to Mr. McIntosh how, for his first line, the services of subordinates under his control in the Wards' Estates, the khas mahals, and the Excise and Educational Departments can be utilized, as well as the establishments under his District Board, and that additional officers need not be asked for till he finds himself with areas for which he cannot otherwise provide.

No. 1874G., dated Bhagalpur, the 21st December 1896.

From—H. J. McINTOSH, Esq., Collector of Bhagalpur,
To—The Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with your No. 208R., dated the 6th December 1896, I have the honour to submit the following report under section 10 of the Famine Code.

2. On the 28th of October last, I intimated to you and to the Revenue Secretary to Government that the state and prospects of the crops in this district were such as to occasion anxiety, and since then I have visited all or almost all parts of the district. Up to the present time no signs of distress have manifested themselves among the mass of the population, but food-grains are, as you are aware, selling at abnormally high prices. The outturn of rice crop has been practically ascertained, and there is the almost certain probability of distress making itself apparent before very long. I therefore submit this report now in order that timely arrangements may be made, and that Government may be made aware of the exact state of affairs.

3. The Bhagalpur district covers an area of 4,268 square miles, and carries, according to the last census, a population of 2,032,696 souls. It may be said to consist of two tracts, viz., the South Gangetic and the North Gangetic tracts. The South Gangetic tract comprises the whole of the Banka subdivision and the greater part of the Sadar subdivision, viz., the Sadar and Sultanganj thanas, and the Colgong thana (with the exception of one outpost). The North Gangetic tract comprises the subdivisions of Supaul and Madhipura, and the Bihpur thana and the Gopalpur outpost of Colgong thana appertaining to the Sadar subdivision. The Banka subdivision, covering an area of 1,182 square miles with a population of 423,350 persons, is at present considered by the Subdivisional Officer to be safe. In this view I concur, with the reservation, however, that in the altered circumstances of the present day when local scarcity may be caused not only by local deficiency of crops, but also by circumstances existing in other parts of India, it may hereafter become necessary for me to modify this opinion if prices are forced up still higher and remain so for a continued length of time. But having regard to the facts that a very fair *bhadoi* crop was reaped throughout the subdivision, that the outturn of the rice crop is not of supreme importance, and considering the habits and customs of the people inhabiting the southern portion of the subdivision, who are accustomed to eke out their subsistence by the help of jungle produce, I believe the subdivision may be held to be fairly safe at present. The weakest parts are the Dharanja outpost of the Banka thana and the southern part of the Katoria thana. In that part of the Sadar subdivision lying south of the Ganges, the Sadar (181 square miles) and the Sultanganj (165 square miles) thanas are, for the time being, fairly safe. In the Sadar thana the rice crop was 7 or 8 annas after a fair *bhadoi*, and there are hopes of a fair *rabi*. In the Sultanganj thana the rice crop is at least 10 annas, while in the Shahkund outpost it is a full 16 annas. Then remains the Colgong thana (413 square miles), part of which is an affected area for the reasons to be stated hereafter.

4. To the north of the Ganges, the Bihpur thana (175 square miles) and the Gopalpur outpost of the Colgong thana are practically safe. They enjoyed a good *bhadoi* crop, rice is not grown to any appreciable extent, and they have a prospect of a fair *rabi* crop. Then remain the subdivisions of Madhipura (1,176 square miles) and Supaul (934 square miles) covering an area of 2,110 square miles. In Supaul, portions of both its thanas will be affected, while in Madhipura the whole of the Bongong thana (263 square miles) and part of the thana of Madhipura (547 square miles) will be affected. The thana of Kishenganj (366 square miles) is considered to be safe at present.

5. *Reasons for apprehending scarcity.*—The past rains have been unseasonable, and in some parts deficient. The total rainfall recorded at each of the six registering stations in the district was as in the margin. But it is not so much the deficient quantity of rain as its unseasonable distribution following upon an unfavourable year that has done the damage. In 1895, there was an early cessation of the rains, the last recorded heavy fall (2·44 inches) being on the 20th September 1895. The *bhadoi* crop of 1895 approached to

	Inches.
Madhipura	38·78
Supaul	29·48
Pertabganj	45·67
Bhagalpur	31·28
Banka	43·68
Colgong	34·72

an average 16-anna crop, but owing to the absence of late rains the *aghani* or rice crop was only returned at 11½ annas, while the *rabi* crop was estimated at 10 annas for the district as a whole. In 1896 there was seasonable, though in parts light, rain in May and June, and the *bhadoi* crops came up with great promise. In July, however, the rains fell off, and from the 19th July until the 20th of August a long sustained draught was experienced. The result was that the *bhadoi* crop was most seriously damaged and could only be finally returned at 9 annas for the whole district. The *aghani* or winter rice crop suffered with the *bhadoi* crop, and during the first part of September gave apprehensions were felt lest it should prove a complete or nearly complete failure. From the 14th to the 20th September, however, there was heavy and general rain which immensely improved prospects, and a good rice crop would have been ensured had there been subsequent rain, and specially a good *hathia*, as the early October rain is called. But unfortunately no rain fell after the 20th September, with the exception of a few drops in November which came too late for the rice and was in most parts of the district too light to materially benefit the coming *rabi* crop. The result is that the rice crop for the district as a whole may be put down at 8 annas. The prospects of the coming *rabi* are also gloomy. The position therefore is that the good *bhadoi* crop of 1895 has been followed by four indifferent crops (*aghani* and *rabi* of 1895, and *bhadoi* and *aghani* of 1896), and that ahead them is the prospect of a bad *rabi* crop. How bad the *rabi* crop will be, it is yet too early to say. To accentuate these difficulties the price of food-grains has risen to almost famine rates owing to the enormous export trade that has been carried on as the outcome of a more general failure of crops in other parts of India.

6. *Area and population likely to be affected.*—When the cause of trouble is not so much local failure of crops as high prices caused by circumstances existing in other parts of India, it is difficult to locate with exactness the precise areas in a district which will be affected. But some parts are worse than others, and these are the areas likely to be affected. They are:—

- The western part of the Colgong thana in the Sadar subdivision south of the Ganges.
- In the Supaul subdivision, the southern part of the Supaul thana, more particularly the part immediately round about Supaul and extending east towards Pipra, south to the Bongong thana of Madhipura, west to the Darbhanga border, and north to about 10 miles north of Supaul.
- The central portion of the Pertabganj thana in Supaul, bounded north by Nepal, south by the Tirhut State Railway, east by the Birbandh, and west by the Dimra nadi.
- The western half of the Madhipura subdivision comprising the whole of thana Bongong and part of thana Madhipura.

The first tract contains a good deal of high land of poor quality and with inadequate means of irrigation. The *bhadoi* crop was very poor, being not more than 4 or 5 annas, while the rice was an almost complete failure. There is some, but not much, *rabi* in this

Sadar	150	69,600
S.	300	175,500
P.	160	64,000
M.	500	300,000
	1,110	609,500

tract I put the area at about 150 square miles, and the density of population in the thana being 464 to the square mile, the population affected may be taken at (150 × 464) 69,600, or roughly 70,000. Assuming that 5 per cent. of the population will require relief, assistance in the shape of work or gratuitous relief may have to be afforded to some 3,500 persons.

In Supaul, the larger area (b) is about 15 × 20 = 300 square miles. The land is high and sandy. The principal crops are the *bhadoi* paddy and *marua* and the winter rice. The Subdivisional Officer estimates the *bhadoi* paddy and *marua* in this area to have been not more than 7 annas, and puts the winter rice at 4 annas. I think this latter estimate rather low, and am inclined to raise it to 5 or 6 annas. But in any case the rice crop was bad. *Rabi* is not very extensively grown in the area, although I must say a considerable quantity of mustard has been grown this year, and gives good promise. The thana carries a population of 585 to the square mile, and the population of the affected area may therefore be put down at 175,500. Five per cent. of that number gives 8,775.

The smaller area (c) is about 20 × 8 = 160 square miles. The land here, too, is high and sandy, and the circumstances are the same as in the larger area (b). The Pertabganj thana carries a population of 395 to the square mile, and the population of the area in question may be taken at about 64,000. Five per cent. on this figure gives 3,200 persons to be provided for.

In Madhipura (d), the area most affected is about 500 square miles, made up thus: Bongong thana 263 square miles and the western half of Madhipura thana 240 square miles.

In this area, the rice crop of which is the principal crop was not more than 5 annas, while to the west of the Dimra river it was less, not more than 2 or 3 annas. The *rabi* crops, with the exception of the mustard, are not expected to yield much. The *dhadoi* paddy failed almost entirely, and the *marua* was estimated at a 7-anna crop. The population of the area is Bongong 168,000, Madhipura (240 × 525) 126,000, making a total of 289,000, or roughly 300,000. Of this, 5 per cent. gives 15,000 persons to be provided for. The total area therefore affected in the district is 1,110 square miles, with a population amounting to 6,09,500, of whom 80,475 may have to be provided for.

7. *Communications*.—In the Colgong thana of the Sadar subdivision communications are excellent. The East Indian Railway runs along the affected area, and there are good roads. So, too, in the Supaul subdivision, where there is the Tirhut State Railway (Kunwa Ghat extension) and a capital road system. In the Madhipura subdivision there is no railway, but the roads are fair, and all villages are accessible.

8. *Grain stocks*.—This is a difficult question on which I am submitting a separate report. The general opinion, however, is that stocks are sufficient.

9. *Sources of food-supply*.—These will mostly be obtainable from local stocks. If the rice crop is not exported to an overwhelming extent, and if the *rabi* crop, about which it is still premature to hazard a definite opinion, is fair, the supplies thus obtained, added to what is believed to be already in hand, should enable the district to support itself without special importation. If importation has to be resorted to, the East Indian Railway and the Tirhut State Railway, and the existing system of roads, provide the means.

10. *Proposed measures of relief*.—The usual measures of relief will be resorted to. In all four tracts there are certain roads under the District and Local Boards which will be raised and improved. Old tanks will be deepened or enlarged, and new tanks will be excavated. The District Engineer is also examining a proposal to erect an embankment along the Dimra river in the Bongong thana. I have, as I write, lists of works in all four areas which can be opened at once. These are not exhaustive, and I am calling upon the Subdivisional Officers to prepare and submit more exhaustive programmes. My proposal is to commence with the roads, and then, as the distress deepens, and the lands become more dry and fit for tank operations, to start work on tanks at selected sites. After the rains break, resort will again, if necessary, be had to roads. I may also add that the proposed railway from Bhabtihi to Manuri, which is now under survey, passes directly through the worst tract on the western side of the northern half of the district, and that if the work can be expedited, so as to admit of the embankment being commenced during the coming hot weather season, it will be of great assistance. In south Bhagalpur, the Bhagalpur-Baidyanath extension of the East Indian Railway can, if necessary, and if the area of distress widens, be commenced, and so, too, in north Bhagalpur can the Hajipur-Katihar extension of the Tirhut State Railway, running along the northern bank of the Ganges, and for which the land is now being acquired by a special Deputy Collector.

Advances will also have to be given under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act. Advances under the former Act should probably not be given until the next sowing season approaches, while advances under the latter Act should be given in the event of zamindars coming forward for loans in order to execute works in their zamindaries which will afford employment either to their raiyats or to the labouring classes.

Charitable relief will be given according to the provision of the Famine Code.

11. *Estimate of expenditure*.—This it is impossible to foretell with anything approaching to accuracy. So much depends upon the extent to which the distress develops, and this in large part depends upon the price of food-grains. The price of food-grains in this district is regulated, as I have pointed out, not so much by the local outturn of crops as by circumstances existing in other parts of India, which have exercised an unfavourable influence here.

The District Board has recast its budget for 1896-97, and by utilizing its closing balance will be able to divert Rs. 22,000 to famine relief during the current year. The budget for 1897-98 is in course of revision, and it is probable that about Rs. 50,000 will be available during that year. Writing as I do from camp, I am unable to give the exact figure.

12. *General*.—The area in the district, which I consider to be affected, is the western side of north Bhagalpur, corresponding more or less with the area affected in recent scarcities, with the addition of part of the Colgong thana in south Bhagalpur. The worst part and the part with the worst communications is that portion of the Bongong thana lying to the west

*1895.

W. B. O.

†1896.

of the Dimra river. Up to 1893* the Bongong thana was included in the Supaul subdivision, but since 1893† it forms part of the Madhipura subdivision. This year, therefore, the severest strain will be in the Madhipura subdivision, while in former scarcities it was in the Supaul subdivision.

13. It is not an easy matter to determine when the distress will develop to such an extent as to render necessary the opening of relief works. On the one hand the great rise in prices has to be borne in mind, while on the other hand, regard has to be given to the amount of agricultural work which will employ labour until the *rabi* is cut, and allowance has to be made for the large amount of money which has recently passed into the district and which will allow food even at the current high rates to be purchased. Test works will probably be opened towards the end of January, but it is scarcely probable that resort will be had to relief works in large numbers until the *rabi* crop is harvested.

14. The district staff will require to be strengthened. In Supaul, there is a Subdivisional Officer with one kanungo. The Subdivisional Officer, Babu Nagendra Nath Gupta, is unable to ride. His health will not permit him to ride. He travels in a tum-tum or an elephant. A Sub-Deputy Collector and two more kanungos should be appointed to the subdivision as soon as possible. This will allow three circles to be opened at once. The area of the circles will be contracted and their number increased as the distress deepens. In Madhipura, the Subdivisional Officer has no assistance whatever. A Sub-Deputy Collector and four kanungos should be appointed to the subdivision at once, the number to be increased hereafter. In the Colgong thana I propose to put Mr. Allen, Assistant Magistrate, in charge of the affected area, if he is not transferred, and to give him the assistance of two kanungos. As there is only one kanungo at head-quarters, two more should be given to me. This will allow two kanungos for the Colgong thana, and leave one man free for emergencies elsewhere. A Sub-Deputy Collector or an energetic Probationary Deputy Collector should also, if possible, be appointed to the head-quarters station. The District Board will appoint special supervisors and sub-overseers according as new works are started.

No. 15 ^{Of}/_{G.}, dated Camp Pertabganj, the 28th January 1897.

From—H. J. McIntosh, Esq., Collector of Bhagalpur,
To—The Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division.

In continuation of my letter No. 1874G., dated the 21st December 1896, submitting a report under section 10 of the Famine Code, I have the honour to submit the following report on the existing state of affairs and the prospects in this district. No reports have hitherto been submitted by me under section 13 of the Code, as during the present month I have been almost continuously with you in camp, and have had the advantage of discussing the situation freely with you.

2. Since my report of 21st December last, I have toured through part of south Bhagalpur, and again through the whole of north Bhagalpur. I believe I have made myself thoroughly acquainted, by personal investigation and inquiry, with the state of affairs in every part of the district. The result of these inquiries is generally to confirm the views which I expressed in my letter of 21st December.

3. Regarding south Bhagalpur I have little to add at present. In no part of the district south of the Ganges has distress manifested itself up to the present time. Nor have I now any reason to believe that in that area severe distress necessitating relief operations will develop, except in the tract of about 150 square miles referred to in paragraph 6 (a) of my letter of 21st December. That tract is being watched. I have only one correction to make, and that is to point out that part of this tract lies in the Sadar thana and part in the Colgong thana, instead of the whole being in the Colgong thana, as I stated before. The tract of country is the same, but I was in error in supposing that it was entirely comprised within the Colong thana.

4. Regarding north Bhagalpur which I recently traversed with you, I still adhere to the views and estimates which I have already submitted. The only modification I am prepared to make at present is in the matter of defining more accurately the areas in which distress will most probably first show itself. I do not think I can state with greater precision the extent to which the distress will actually develop.

5. Dealing first with the Madhipura subdivision, I still think that the whole of Bongong thana and the western part of the Madhipura thana will be affected. But it is in the Bongong thana (263 square miles), comprising parganas Kabkhand and Uttarkhand, that the distress will be most severe, and it is there that distress will probably make its appearance first. The development of distress in the western part of the Madhipura thana will be more gradual, and it may be some time before relief operations are required there. In the Bongong thana no test work has been opened as yet, but the result of the inquiries made by me in your company is to confirm me in the view that it will be necessary to open a test work in a few days. Meanwhile my arrangements for commencing operations are, I believe, complete. I am having the thana carefully watched, there are works ready to be opened under the Agency of the District Board at a day's notice, and I have set the Subdivisional Officer more free to move about by deputing to the Madhipura subdivision (with your sanction) the Sub-Deputy Collector attached to the head-quarters subdivision.

6. In the Supaul subdivision I specified two tracts of country as likely to be affected. The larger area, comprising about 300 square miles of the southern part of the Supaul thana, will, I think, become affected at an early date. In the smaller area of about 160 square miles of the Pertabganj thana, the result of my further inquiries is to lead me to believe that the prospects are somewhat better there, that the distress will develop more slowly, and that it is not likely to be so acute as in the tract around Supaul. But nevertheless it still seems probable that relief will be required in that tract about the end of March or beginning of April. Regarding the remaining parts of the Supaul subdivision, which I have not indicated as likely to become affected, I am still dubious. It is possible that distress may develop in the north of the Supaul thana and in the part of the Pertabganj thana lying west of the village of Pertabganj. But in any case I do not anticipate severe distress in either of these regions, and should distress develop, there will fortunately be valuable aid forthcoming in both tracts. In North Supaul I have reason to believe that assistance will be

rendered by the Maharaja of Darbhanga, and in the Pertabganj thana by Rai Ganpat Singh Sahab of Harawat.

7. Up to the present time no severe distress has appeared in the Supaul subdivision. The Subdivisional Officer thought that the time had come to open test works, and, at the instance of a number of labourers from some half-dozen villages, who said they would accept work at Famine Code wages, applied for my sanction to open a test work. I gave sanction to an ordinary District Board work (making the approaches to a large new bridge) about two miles from Supaul, being constructed according to Famine Code rates. I fixed the full ration wage at 5 pice for a male, and insisted upon a full task being exacted. The following are the results:—

	Men.	Women.	Big children.	Small children.	Adult dependents.	Non-working children.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18th January ...	28	24	11	1	3	19	86
19th " ...	None worked, as wage was considered too low.						
20th " ...	4	7	4	.....	.....	6	21
21st " ...	11	12	6	2	.....	6	37
22nd " ...	10	17	6	6	.....	19	52
23rd " ...	13	19	7	7	.....	9	55
24th " ...	Details not available.						63
25th " ...	19	31	21	16	.....	19	106
26th " ...	14	31	9	15	.....	.....	69

These figures in my opinion indicate that the test work was opened somewhat prematurely. The falling off in numbers on the 26th is due to the fact that when I reached Supaul, I directed, with a view to making the test more sure, that non-workers should not be received on the work. Meanwhile the test work is being kept open, and I have submitted for your decision the question of what the proper wage should be.

8. My estimate of expenditure is as follows:—

	Rs.
A. Advances in 1896-97 ...	10,000
Ditto in 1897-98 ...	60,000

These advances should, I now think, be liberally given having regard to the circumstances existing in North Bhagalpur. There are Brahman and Rajput villages, the inhabitants of which will not come on to relief works. For these advances on the joint and several security system are necessary. And the more liberally advances are given, the more money will there be for the employment of labourers who, if not employed, will come on to the Government works.

B.—Relief works and gratuitous relief.

	Rs.
1896-97 ...	15,000
1897-98 ...	1,89,375

This estimate is based upon the assumption that it will be necessary to give relief up to, and including the month of September. Estimating the expenditure at one anna per head per day, the calculation is this:—

	Persons.	Days.	Annas.	Rupees.
1	2	3	4	5
February ...	2,000	× 30	= 60,000	= 3,750
March ...	6,000	× 30	= 180,000	= 11,250
April ...	20,000	× 30	= 600,000	= 37,500
May ...	30,000	× 30	= 900,000	= 56,250
June ...	25,000	× 30	= 750,000	= 46,875
July ...	15,000	× 30	= 450,000	= 28,125
August ...	10,000	× 30	= 300,000	= 18,750
September ...	1,000	× 30	= 30,000	= 1,875
Total ...	1,09,000	× 30	= 3,270,000	= 2,04,375

Expressed briefly, the calculation comes to 3,270,000 persons for one day at one anna per day, amounting to 3,270,000 annas, or Rs. 2,04,375.

9. In conclusion, I adhere generally to the views already given by me for the reasons which I submitted to you in December. I have already informed you of the amount of money which the District Board will be able to divert to relief operations. That amount will, I believe, be largely supplemented by private charity. Meanwhile, I have strengthened the District Board Agency in North Bhagalpur by sending up as many overseers and sub-overseers as are at my disposal. I have had prepared estimates for, and laid out the work on, a number of roads where operations can be commenced at once; and, speaking generally, I am at present fully prepared to commence relief operations when necessary. I have also, as you are aware, taken steps to have the whole district watched, and am disposing of such agency as I possess in such a manner as to enable me to administer charitable relief when and where required. When the situation develops more fully, it will be necessary for me to apply for an increase of establishment in the shape of Sub-Deputy Collectors and kanungoes; to contract the area, and increase the number of the circles which I have roughly sketched out, and, finally, to apply for funds sufficient to meet my requirements.

No. 234R., dated Cuttack, the 5th February 1897.

From—H. G. COOKS, Esq., Commissioner of the Orissa Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I HAVE the honour to state that the last report reviewing the general position of this Division with regard to famine and scarcity was submitted by Mr. Dutt in his No. 5R. of the 5th January 1897; since then I have, in my No. 161R. of the 28th January 1897, reported in reply to your Circular No. 78 of the 31st December 1896. This report, however, only deals with one aspect of the question, namely, the estimates of expenditure on famine relief for the current and the next financial year.

In this report I interpolated some information recently received about the state of things in a small, and I should imagine thinly populated, portion of the district of Puri. I am aware that this course was irregular, and my adopting it was due to the apparent gravity of the case, and the circumstance that I was not at that time sufficiently well informed on the state of Orissa generally, or acquainted with the recent famine literature, to enable me to undertake a more elaborate report, and I sent what I sent by way of an instalment only.

2. I shall now endeavour, under obvious disadvantages, to take up the narrative of events subsequent to Mr. Dutt's report of January 5th. narrative of events from the time dealt with by Mr. Dutt till the third week in January.

Mr. Dutt's report of 5th January dealt with events to the 3rd week in December, except in one district. I shall deal with all information received since that contained in the district reports dealt with by Mr. Dutt.

3. To dispose of the lightest districts first, the Angul Deputy Commissioner on 26th December reported no change in the situation; coarse rice selling in Angul at 20 seers to the rupee, and Mr. Lloyd of the Khondmals estimated that the average outturn of rice in the *males* amounted to a 12-anna crop. The district reports of 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd January show no change in the situation; his telegram to Government, however, of the 23rd January gives the price of rice as 11½ seers in Angul, as compared with 20 seers to the rupee reported on 26th December. Mr. Wylly signed no report later than the 2nd January; he was doubtless on tour. I do not think that such an extraordinary inconsistency as reporting simultaneously that there was no change and that there had been a rise in prices from 20 to 11½ seers per rupee, could have occurred had the Deputy Commissioner sent the two reports of 23rd January. I attach little importance to the alleged rise in the price of coarse rice; the later reports are perfunctory and stereotyped. Had any serious rise of the kind occurred, I do not doubt that Mr. Wylly himself would have reported it.

Conclusion: that the state of the Angul district is satisfactory.

4. I do not consider that there is any cause for uneasiness on account of the condition of the Angul district.

5. Next to Angul,

Course of events in the district of Balasore.

Balasore district gives least cause for anxiety. Appendix II, "statement of rainfall, prices of food-grains, and outturn of food-crops in the years 1873-74, 1888-89, 1891-92, and 1896-97," shows that the outturn of the principal rice crop in 1896 was only 6 annas and that of the *shadoi* 8 annas in the Balasore district; notwithstanding this, the Collector,

neither in his reports on scarcity, nor in his estimate of expenditure, shows any apprehension of serious or widespread scarcity, either in the current year or in 1897-98.

Mr. De's report in reply to Circular No. 7T.—R. is dated 23rd December; since then I have received four weekly reports from the Collector of Balasore, the last of these is dated 23rd January. They are brief, and the only point worth noticing is the variation in the price of rice showing an upward tendency.

	2nd January.	9th January.	16th January.	23rd January.
1	2	3	4	5
	Seers per rupee.	Seers per rupee.	Seers per rupee.	Seers per rupee.
Balasore	13	11	11½	11½
Bhadrak	14	14	14	13
Chandbali	12	.....	.....	.....
Elsewhere	16	.....	.....	.....

6. The Settlement office supplies prices-current to dates varying from 15th January to 20th January for each pargana, and also estimates of crops as follows:—

NAME OF OFFICER.	Pargana.	Outturn of paddy in annas.	Price of rice.
1	2	3	4
Babu S. G. Bhattacharjee ...	Banchas ...	8 to 9	16 seers per rupee (80 tolas).
Jogeswar Biswas ...	Balikhand...	8	14 " " "
H. K. Mahanti ...	Senaut ...	.....	14 to 16 " " "
Debendra Nath Bose ...	Ankura ...	8	13 " " "
Jogabandhu Ghosh ...	Bayang ...	12	14 " " "
K. B. Goswami ...	Soro ...	10	13 " " "
A. P. Das ...	Dhamnagar	6 to 9	13 to 14 " " "
R. O. Das ...	Randhia ...	6 to 9	16 to 18 " " "
Surendra Nath Sirkar ...	Argora ...	.....	18 " " "
Ishan Chandra Das ...	Nuakhand..	8	13 " " "
	Banchas ...	8	13 " " "

Of ten Assistant Settlement Officers reporting on the Balasore district, eight either definitely report no alteration in the situation, or do not refer to any alteration on any important matter.

One, the officer of the Senaut Circle, mentions that "the *rabi* crop has turned out miserable."

The officer of the Bayang Circle mentions a report of "the gloomy prospects of the Talmal raiyats; many have already left their homes with family to seek employment elsewhere." Talmal is the tract bordering on the sea, at all times an area exposed to risks of loss of crops; there is nothing unusual in Uriyas leaving their homes in search of employment, but it is not usual for them to take their families with them; the information is avowedly based on a rumour.

Conclusion: with regard to the Balasore district that at present there is no cause for anxiety.

I am unable to see any ground for apprehension at present in the state of the Balasore district generally.

7. The Cuttack Collector's report in connection with Circular No. 7T.—R. is dated 5th December; since then I have received from the Collector letters dated 15th and 29th December and 24th January.

The first of these mentions that there is little to add to the previous reports; it expresses apprehension of scarcity in Banki Government estate, and mentions

that the Jajpur subdivision is likely to fare better than the rest of the district. In the report of 29th December again it is stated that there is little new to report; it is stated that the section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway from Barung to Tanghy will employ all in want of employment throughout the hot weather, and the Collector thinks that relief works in a few localities only may be necessary in two months' time.

Mr. Growse's third letter, No. 224G. of the 24th January, deserves to be read *in extenso*, as the Collector very thoughtfully wrote in greater detail in order to put me, on my return from leave, in the possession of all information up to date. I enclose a copy of this letter.

The map referred to in his letter he has taken away to modify. I learn from Mr. Carey that the areas where scarcity is apprehended are not contiguous with thanas of which the population is known; they are portions of thanas, and having ascertained the area from the map, the population has been estimated at the average population per square mile of the thanas in which the affected areas lie; this may, I think, prove fallacious in the direction of an overestimate, as the affected areas in some, if not all, distressed localities are the same as are subject to frequent loss of crops by flood in ordinary years, and are presumably more thinly populated than the safer areas of the same thana.

It will be noted that the scarcity is not expected till March, and in some cases not till April; it is not stated clearly how long it is likely to last, and consequently the persons requiring relief have not been reduced to terms of one day, as has been done in Mr. Bourdillon's memorandum of 21st December 1896.

It appears to be doubtful how long relief works when opened will be required. In the Patna Division, I note that provision is made in some districts for extending these works as the year advances, whereas it seems probable, as the Collector says, that in Orissa many will leave the relief works as soon as agricultural operations are resumed at the breaking of the rains.

8. I have no desire to make the smallest reflection on the Collector's work, but I think that his information may be derived from sources that I can only describe as habitually unreliable. I called attention in my General Administration Report for 1892-93, No. 1218R., dated ^{4th}/_{5th} July 1893, to the extraordinary estimates of the outturn of crops in this Division for three years before Mr. Growse joined it. I then wrote as follows:—

"I am lacking in experience of the Division it is true, but so far as my observations go, I should be disposed to think that there is a tendency in the Division to take an unnecessarily pessimistic view of the outturn of crops. It is scarcely conceivable, I think, that for the last three years the *baali* crop has never reached an average crop in any district of the Division, and that the *saradh* only did so once in one district, viz. Puri, in 1890-91. Similarly with all other crops, *laghu* in Puri in 1890-91 being the only other exception. I cannot but suspect that instruction has been disregarded, and that 16 annas is habitually treated as a bumper and not an average crop as it should be, otherwise one would reasonably infer that the Division has for the last three years been in a condition not far removed from severe scarcity, whereas in 1891-92 it exported rice and paddy in vast quantities to Madras, though the principal rice crop—*saradh*—is shown to have been somewhat below 10 annas of an average crop for the Division. If the figures are correct, the Divisional average was, in fact, considerably lower, as Cuttack, the area of which is 44·45 of the whole Division, had only an 8-anna crop, the lowest of the three districts."

A state of things was reported which would ordinarily have meant famine, or at least very severe scarcity, though neither famine or severe scarcity occurred. I therefore think that there is a tendency of some standing in this district, especially to take a desponding view of the situation by those from whom the Collector derives his information. I may mention that the District Engineer has made a prolonged tour in the affected areas, and he assures me that he saw no signs of general distress, and only one instance of emaciation, such as might be met with in any year.

9. I have more than once in past years referred to the *amars* of zamindars and others as a valuable resource in time of famine, and I have no doubt that they will prove so. These granaries do not depend on the harvests of one year, but on those of many years. I have not been informed that they have been depleted, nor do I see that there is much danger of the owners failing to make grain advances to their tenants, who, in their turn, will see to their farm

servants. It is the interest of the zamindar to preserve his tenantry, and he tenants their farm hands. It is also the custom for them both to do this.

10. I may also mention that in Keonjhar State in 1892-93, on the occasion of the punitive expedition, large quantities of rice were found buried on the premises of the poorest raiyats in a country far less fertile than the Cuttack district.

11. For the present there appears no cause for alarm in the district of Cuttack, but the necessity to be watchful and ready is clear. If, as he states, the Collector thinks that relief works will generally have to be opened in March, I should think that the time has come to attend to the mapping out of relief circles; no harm can come of doing this, and evil might arise from unduly deferring it. The Collector might also turn his attention to the preparation of schedules of work for the affected areas as he has already been desired to, and, if necessary, call for the assistance of the Public Works Department for large work. Gratuitous relief has still to be organized, and how far communications suffice for bringing grain to where it may be wanted should be considered, together with how far the system of advances to contractors is necessary and how it would work in this district.

12. I have received 12 reports from Assistant Settlement Officers employed in Cuttack, together with a return similar to that supplied in the case of Balasore, the outturn of the harvest and of prices-current up to the middle of January, which I give *in extenso*:—

NAME OF OFFICER.	Pargana.	Outturn of paddy in annas.	Price of rice.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
Babu H. C. Rai	Balubisi ... ..	...	13 to 15 annas per rupee (80 tolas).	
" B. M. Gupta	Jaipur	12	15 annas 12 chittaks per rupee.	
" S. C. Guha	Jodh	12	13 annas per rupee (105 tolas).	
" S. C. Bose	Utikan	8	15 " " " "	
" Murari Misra	Kalamatia	12	15 " " " "	
" Phanindra Narain Mukerjee	Baruan	8 to 4	11 " " " "	
" G. C. Das Gupta	Olas ... ..	...	15 " " " "	
" J. M. Das	Jaipur	10	12 " " " "	
" D. P. Rai	Kantajhar	6	10 " " " "	
" Ahyasa Charan Dutt	Ahyas	2 (portion)	12 " " " "	
" K. C. Sirkar	Jhankar	4 to 12	12 " " " "	
Maulvi Mahomed Chaimuddin	Kohanda Jaipur ... ..	...	10 annas	Cuttack or standard weight not mentioned.

13. Of the 12 Assistant Settlement Officers, only four seem to have forebodings of evil.

The officer of the Kalamatia Circle reports that grain supply in that neighbourhood is well nigh exhausted; it may suffice for a month more "after which the condition of these people will become a subject of anxious solicitude." The report is dated 17th January.

The Ahyas officer reports "the people have already suffered a pinch of distress in this part of the country; some of the poorer classes had gone to work on the railway line; but as they got a very pitant (possibly derived from pittance) amount not sufficient to support themselves and their families, they have all returned home." The above statement is intended to convey the idea that famine or scarcity prevails; but railway workers are well paid and the conditions are more favourable than those on test works; and it appears tolerably certain that the distress cannot be great when men leave the railway works; a third officer foresees distress after June, which is just the time when I should expect an abatement of it by reason of the normal demand for agricultural labour. The circle officer of Jaipur reports that people are living on *kulthi* and *birhi* grains not generally used for human consumption, and some do not get a sufficiency of these.

14. There remains the district of Puri, where distress is represented as having manifested itself in an unmistakable manner in certain tracts, happily of a limited area, and, I should suppose, very sparsely populated, but I have no definite information as to area or population at present. The

Collector's report in connection with Circular No. 7T.—R. is dated 31st December. There is very little said in this as to the affected area, beyond that Parikud, Manikpatan, Bajrakote, Malood, and parts of Chhabiskud and Serai "are reported to be worst of all." The Collector's report of 2nd January 1897 contains nothing of importance; the same may be said of his reports of 9th and 18th January.

There remain the two letters I have referred to in my report on the estimate of expenditure required for this Division, Nos. 66 of 9th, 11th January and 116 of 23rd January, which are somewhat alarming. I enclose copies of these letters. The area affected is described as the neighbourhood of the Chilka Lake, and includes the places named in the Collector's letter of 31st December quoted above.

Mr. Lee deals with his experience in a tour in these parts, and reports the almost total loss of the rice crop, an inadequate grain supply and, great difficulty in getting rice conveyed to the places where it is required. The danger is said not to be imminent, but it is apprehended that, if supplies cannot be procured on the spot, distress will be terribly severe in April and May. I understand that the Collector has secured contractors to supply this area, and has opened relief works, not task works, as might have been expected. The Collector talks of opening a godown for the sale of rice at Satpara where arrangements have been made for a weekly supply from Khurda; also at Arakuda, Manikpatana, Parikud, and Malood; these, I presume, are to be ultimately placed in the hands of contractors, if they are not so already, on which point the report is not clear. The people are reported to have money sufficient to purchase grain where it is available.

The Raja of Parikud is following his father's footsteps in devoting his means to the support of his tenantry; and he has asked a loan from Government of Rs. 15,000 to enable him to carry on the work: 1,000 men find employment on the Government salt works at Satpara.

The Collector states that there are no traders on the spot, and trade will not bring rice to where it is wanted. The second letter of 20th January is in the same strain. The people in Malood are described as living on roots; a water famine is anticipated in April and May; the people are unwilling to help themselves;—clearly relief works here should take the form of wells or tanks. The Collector has induced a merchant to open godowns at Malood and Parikud, has started gratuitous relief and ordered Taccavi advances to be made.

15. The Collector's letters Nos. 66 of 9th—11th January 1897 and 116 of 25th January 1897 are absolutely silent as to the area and population of the distressed tract in the neighbourhood of the Chilka lake. For the rest, he appears to have done all that can be done. I have since learnt from a communication dated subsequently to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's visit that two Circle officers have been appointed, and advances made to contractors. The above letters deal with only a small portion of the district of Puri; there are other portions of it said to be in danger, which include that part of the shores of the Chilka lying to the east of the lake and not dealt with above, a portion of the seaboard where this district borders Cuttack, and a small area in Khurda. There is an extensive area placed in the second and a smaller in the third degree as to the gravity of their condition. It appears to me that the Collector should map out his Circles for these, so as to be ready, if the necessity arises, for action; to have his schedules of works ready in each case; to ascertain how communications will serve the distressed areas, and to inquire for contractors for relief works should they be considered necessary: to organize gratuitous relief, and, if necessary, to call in the aid of the Public Works Department to undertake large works.

16. I have received 11 reports from Assistant Settlement Officers in Puri, exclusive of Khurda, and two from Officers on the Khurda Settlement.

Conclusions arrived at from the reports of the Collector of Puri.
Contribution of the Settlement Officers to the narratives of events in Puri.

I give, as in the other two districts, the estimates of outturn of crops and price-current to the middle of January, as received from the Settlement Officers.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Pargana.	Outturn of paddy in annas.	Price of rice.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
Puri.				
Babu A. K. Sen	Lembai	8	11-11½ seers per rupee (105 tolas)	
P. K. Banerjee	Kotdesh	8	12½ " " (105 ")	
A. L. Gupta	Chowbiskud	2-16	12 " " (105 ")	
J. C. Lahari	Kodhar	2-16	9-10 " " (115 ")	
S. O. Sen	Atais	2-16	10 " " (105 ")	
J. M. Sinha	Antrodha	8	8½ " " (105 ")	
S. B. Das	Kotdesh	8	10 " " (105 ")	
Ram Kanai Pal	Paridai	3	10-15 " " (105 ")	
A. C. Das	Bahang	3	10-15 " " (105 ")	
Mr. H. McPherson	Puri district	3	10 " " (105 ")	
Babu B. M. Kanhangoes	Kotdesh	8	8 " " (105 ")	
Khurda.				
Babu Kali Mohun Sen		6-8	9-10 " " (105 ")	
J. N. Dutt		8-10	11-12 " " (105 ")	

Of these 11 reports, six are favourable, reporting no change for the worse, and, in some instances, actual improvement in the prospect. Of the remaining five, one reports a rise in price from 12 seers for the rupee to 11 between December 30th and January 6th; another reports "general condition of the people is being worse. In some parts villagers have begun to sell their cattle, price of rice is ruling higher and higher, even then no adequate supply could be obtained;" a third mentions "reports of people living on short meal or inferior food obtained from the jungle;" a fourth reports prices rising "and a fifth says, the price of rice is again continuing to rise." Of the Khurda reports one is favourable, and the other is favourable except in the case of the landless classes who may, it is thought, require relief works to be opened; this class is not, I believe, a very large one in Khurda, the condition of which Subdivision is believed, by good judges, to be beyond question better than any other part of the district of Puri.

17. I append two Statements, one, A, compiled from figures supplied by District Officers comparing prices on 26th December 1896 with prices on the 23rd to 27th January 1897.

The other, B, showing the prices at dates varying from the 15th to 21st January 1897 at various head-quarters of Assistant Settlement Officers. Statement A shows no change in Cuttack, and rises in Balasore and Puri. The large rise reported in Angul I discredit.

18. I am of opinion that neither Angul nor Balasore show any reason to suppose that scarcity is imminent; indeed, so far as my information goes, very ordinary relief measures will suffice for both districts. Cuttack remains in a state of uncertainty, but what is known, shows the necessity for watchfulness and preparedness, and in Puri there can, I think, be no question that scarcity prevails in a limited area of unknown extent and population. I have addressed the Collector on the subject of procuring the information required for a report under section 9 of the Famine Code.

A.				
Price of Rice.				
District.	Date of report.	Last week of December 1896.	Date of report.	At the end of the 3rd week of January 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
Cuttack	26th December 1896	STANDARD SRS. CH. 11 13	24th January 1897...	SRS. CHS. 11 13
Balasore	26th " "	From 12 to 21 seers in mufassal, 19 seers at Sadar, 15 seers at Bhadrak.	24th " " "	Sadar ... 11 8 Bhadrak ... 18 0 Mufassal { 10 0 to • 16 0
Puri	26th " "	SRS. CHS. 11 13 to 15 12	23rd " " "	10 seers 8 chitaks to 14 seers 7 chitaks.
Angul	26th " "	19 8	23rd " " "	SRS. CH. Angul ... 11 8 Khondmals 16 8

H. G. COOKE,
Commissioner.

B.

Price of rice in the interior from the 15th to the 21st January 1897, as reported by the Assistant Settlement Officer.

DISTRICT.	Pargana.	Price of rice per rupee.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
		Standard.	
		S. CH.	
Cuttack ...	Balubisi ...	13 12	
	Jajepur ..	15 12	
	Jodh ...	15 12	
	Utikan ...	15 12	
	Kalamatia ...	15 12	
	Baruan ...	14 7	
	Olas ...	17 1	
	Jajpur ...	15 12	
	Kantajhar ...	13 12	
	Ahyas ...	15 12	
	Jhankar ...	15 12	
Balasore ...	Banchas ...	16 0	
	Balikhand ...	14 0	
	Senant ...	14 0	
	Ankura ...	16 0	
	Barjang ...	13 0	
	Soro ...	14 0	
	Dhamnagar ...	13 0	
	Raudiaorgora ...	to 14 0	
	Nuakhand ..	16 0	
	Banchas ...	to 18 0	
Puri ...	Lembai ...	13 0	
	Kotdesh ...	14 7	
	Chowbiskud ...	to 15 1½	
	Kodhar ...	12 8	
	Atais ...	15 12	
	Antrodh ...	11 13	
	Kotdesh ...	to 13 2	
	Parhdoi ...	13 2	
	Rahang ...	to 13 2	
	Puri district ...	11 2½	
	Kotdesh ...	13 2	
	Khurda ...	to 13 2	
		and 14 7	
		to 15 12	

H. G. COOK,

Commissioner.

No. 224G., dated Cuttack, the 24th January 1897.

From—E. F. Growse, Esq., Collector of Cuttack.
To—The Commissioner of the Orissa Division.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report showing, as far as it is possible with the means at my disposal, what I believe to be the position of this district at the present moment, with reference to the scarcity which is feared to be impending.

2. I enclose a map on the scale of eight inches to the mile, coloured brown for those parts of the district in which the scarcity is likely to be severe, and blue where it is likely to be less severe.

3. The accompanying statement shows the approximate area and population of the affected portions of the district, and the number of persons likely to require relief, and the time when relief is likely to be required.

4. THE SADAR SUB-DIVISION.

(1) Excluding the Banki Government estate, with which I will deal presently, there is an area of 278 square-miles in which scarcity may be apprehended. This area lies—

- (a) to the south of the Machgaon Canal, in that portion of the district which lies open to the floods of the Katjuri river (called the Deb in its lower reaches) and its tributaries;
- (b) in the tract lying between the Kendrapara and Taldanda Canals, which is exposed to the floods of the Mahanadi and its various branches;
- (c) Pargana Kuhunda, Jaipur, at the north of the Sadar Subdivision and bordering on the Jajpur boundary, lying between the rivers Birupa and Genguti.

(ii) Distress is feared, owing to partial, and in places, almost complete failure of the rice crop, due to the unusually high floods of July and August 1896, followed by the abnormal drought, which has lasted uninterruptedly from the 30th September 1896. The outturn of paddy in these areas in no place exceeded six annas, and in many places did not exceed two to four annas, and in some places was absolutely and entirely destroyed. The *rabi* crop has also suffered much from want of moisture, and the area sown is believed to be less than the normal. I do not think the outturn will come to eight annas, and in many parts it will be less.

(iii) The approximate population of these affected tracts in the Sadar Subdivision is 208,000. It is extremely difficult to forecast what proportion of the population is likely to require relief, and I do not pretend to any accuracy in my forecast. Everything depends upon the degree of scarcity. Figures have been compiled in my office showing that over 60,000 persons will require relief! I do not think that this would be an over-estimate, if the degree of scarcity were likely to be very severe, but I have great hopes that it will not be so severe as it would if there were no protected and irrigated areas in the neighbourhood of these tracts where crops have failed. Moreover, the people in these tracts are habituated to distress in some form, and in some degree each year, and are not entirely dependent upon their rice crop. Although the *rabi* crop is not large, it will be of much assistance in staving off actual starvation. I therefore take a low percentage, and estimate that 10 per cent. of the population, or, in round figures, about 20,000 persons will require relief in the tracts referred to above.

IV—THE BANKI ESTATE IN THE SADAR SUB-DIVISION.

The area of this estate is 117 square-miles and the population at last Census was 57,451. A recent Census taken by the Sub-Deputy Collector, however, discloses that the population has now increased to 58,795. The Sub-Deputy Collector reports that the whole area is affected, and has therefore coloured his map all brown. I do not agree with him altogether, as the south-western end of the estate is better off this year than the other parts. I have, therefore, had this coloured blue. It is, however, a fact that the lower classes are more numerous in Banki than in most other parts of the district, as is shown by the facts that *pans* and *sahars* and other purely labouring classes number nearly 11,000.

In the flooded tract in this estate the rice crop was a total failure, and for the whole estate, the outturn is estimated at only five annas. The area sown with *rabi* is only half the normal area, and the outturn of this will only be about eight annas. This gives a four-anna crop for the normal area. On the other hand the Sub-Deputy Collector thinks that there are sufficient stocks to last till the end of March, but by that time relief will be necessary.

I prefer to adhere even in this case to a proportion of 10 per cent. of the population, as likely to be the most to require relief at first. These numbers will, of course, be seriously increased hereafter, if the scarcity develops in severity.

(V). That portion of the Kujang estate, which lies within the Sadar Subdivision, I will not now deal with, but will take up this and the Kanika estates separately at the end of this report.

5. THE JAJPUR SUB-DIVISION.

(i) In the first place I think I may safely say that this Subdivision is better off than any other part of the district. At the same time the Subdivisional Officer reports that an area of 324 square-miles, with an approximate population of 173,000, is more or less seriously affected. As in the Sadar Subdivision it is the unprotected tracts, which suffered so severely

from the abnormally high floods of the Brahmini, Kharsus, Baitarni and their various branches, and in which the re-planted rice withered from the continuous drought during October and November, in which scarcity is now feared.

(ii). The outturn of rice in the worst parganas is estimated at from 4 to 7 annas, and the outturn of *rabi* about 8 annas.

(iii). The approximate population of the affected area is estimated at about 173,000. The Subdivisional Officer has taken a percentage of 7 per cent. on the rural and 10 per cent. on the town population as likely to require relief, amounting, roughly, to about 12,000 persons. I think this is fair as the general conditions of the Subdivision are more favourable than elsewhere, and the stocks are believed to be larger here than elsewhere. At least I hope that, at first, no larger number is likely to require relief. I am inclined to think that too large a portion of the affected area has been coloured "brown," but prefer not to alter it.

6. KENDRAPARA SUB-DIVISION.

(i) Excluding the estates of Kujang and Kanika, large portions of which lie within this Subdivision, the Subdivisional Officer estimates that an area of 173 square-miles, with an approximate population of 88,000, is more or less seriously affected. This tract lies almost entirely to the south of the Kendrapara Canal, with two small parganas to the north thereof, and scattered portions of the parganas Tikan and Utikan. The reasons why scarcity is apprehended are the same as in the Sadar and Jaipur Subdivisions.

(ii) The outturn of paddy in the whole of the Kendrapara Subdivision is estimated at eight annas. But in the tract coloured brown, to the south of the Kendrapara Canal, and the two small parganas of Atkanta and Neulbisi, the Subdivisional Officer reports that there was complete destruction of the saradh and *rabi* crops, and certainly, if the destruction was not absolutely complete, it was nearly so.

(iii) The approximate population is estimated at about 88,000, but I cannot help fearing that the estimate may be too low, and am writing to the Subdivisional Officer to explain his method of calculation. Taking 10 per cent. of this population, we have 8,800 + 1,700 for the town, or, roughly, about 10,000 likely to require relief during the early months of distress.

7. I now come to the Kujang and Kanika wards' estates, which have not been taken into consideration in the foregoing remarks.

THE KUJANG ESTATE.

This estate lies partly in the Sadar and partly in the Kendrapara Subdivision along the seaboard. It is the property of the minor Maharaja of Burdwan, and under the Court of Wards. There is a Sub-Manager in charge. The area is 320 square-miles with a population of 69,877. The outturn of the rice crop is estimated at 4 annas within the estate, much of which is exposed to flood at all times. That portion, usually protected, on the north side of the canal from Marshaghai to Jambu, was also this year flooded out by the water rushing through the breaches made in the flood embankment of the canal. This has added to the area severely affected. The subsequent drought has done great damage.

The outturn of *rabi* is not stated by the Sub-Manager, but will not exceed 8 annas, and of this, the principal crop is mustard, which is not a food crop.

The Sub-Manager estimates that about 12,000 persons will require relief at first in the form of work or gratuitous relief.

8. KANIKA ESTATE.

The area of this estate is 439.81 square-miles, with a population of 77,129, according to the Census of 1891, but, as ascertained by recent enumeration by the estate officials, at 85,563.

Of the total area 174.88 square-miles belong to the district of Balasore, but the whole estate is administered by the Collector of Cuttack, and therefore the burden of meeting any scarcity which may ensue, falls upon this office.

The estate grows only one crop, the Saradh, and this has failed to a very large extent, owing to the high floods, which were the highest on record, followed by the continuous drought from the end of September. It is estimated that, in 4ths of the cultivated area the rice was completely destroyed by flood, and subsequently about 4ths were re-planted and were doing well till the drought came. Then the crops withered as they stood, except where they could be watered by artificial irrigation from jores and creeks and tanks. The total outturn of the rice crop is estimated at rather less than four annas!!

Of the population of 85,563 the Manager estimates that about 23,000 are independent of State aid altogether, and that about 58,000 are able-bodied and will have to be provided with work, and about 4,500 are infirm and aged, and children, &c., to whom gratuitous relief will have to be given for six months, from the middle of April to the middle of September.

Of the 58,000 able-bodied persons, the largest proportion must be women and children, and it is also unlikely that all will require relief. Many men will go to Calcutta to work, for emigration to Calcutta is common from this estate, and many will, I hope, get work in various forms. I hope, therefore, that we shall not have to provide work for more than 15,000 adults in this estate, in addition to the relief which must be given to the aged and infirm. Altogether we may say that about 20,000 will require relief during the early months of distress in the shape of labour or gratuitous relief.

9. To sum up, we have an area of:—

	Square miles.
Sadar Subdivision	278
Banki Government Estate	117
Jajpur Subdivision	324
Kendrapara Subdivision	173
Kujang Wards Estate	320
Kanika " "	439
	<u>1,651</u>

Deducting 174 miles of the Kanika estate, which belong to Balasore district, we have 1,477 miles, out of the total district area of 3,633 miles, in which we have reason to fear distress in a greater or less degree.

10. The population of the affected areas is approximately:—

Sadar Subdivision	2,08,000
Banki Government Estate	58,795
Jajpur Subdivision	1,73,000
Kendrapara Subdivision	88,400
Kujang Wards Estate	69,877
Kanika " "	85,563
	<u>6,83,635</u>

And we anticipate that, at the beginning, or during the first month or two of distress, we may have to provide relief for:—

	Persons.
Sadar Subdivision	20,000
Banki Government Estate	5,000
Jajpur Subdivision	12,000
Kendrapara Subdivision	10,000
Kujang Ward Estates	12,000
Kanika " "	20,000
	<u>79,000</u>

11. It is to be observed that the estimate, made by the Managers of the 2 last-named Estates are higher than those framed by the Subdivisional Officers, although I have somewhat, reduced the Managers' figures. But we must remember that these two Estates are situated in the worst part of the district, and were perhaps more severely affected by the floods than other part. Again the Managers may be expected to have a more intimate knowledge of their small charges than the Subdivisional Officers can possibly have of their Subdivisions. It is true that the present Manager of Kanika has but recently joined, but I know that the late Manager, Mr. Sakhawat Hossein, considered the situation very grave, before he left early in November last. As said at the beginning, I do not pretend to claim any accuracy for my figures for the other parts of the district, but provided that scarcity occurs, I do not think they can be held to err on the side of excess.

12. I submit this report with the view that you may learn what portions of the district, and approximately the area and population of these portions, which the local officers consider to be seriously affected by loss of crops on account of the recent floods and drought. It is possible that the area may be overstated, and I trust it may; but at the same time there are good reasons for thinking that there is no over-statement. On the other hand, to what degree of severity this scarcity will reach, it is entirely impossible to say. The mitigating circumstances are—

- (a) Previous good crops.
 - (b) Fairly good crops in protected areas.
 - (c) Railway work and work on the Marsaghai, Jumboo Canal and other ordinary works which will give some relief.
 - (d) Improved communications.
- Against these—
- (a) Exports have been larger than usual.
 - (b) Stocks neither believed to be large, nor easily mobilised.

There is little or no internal trade. The villagers buy nearly everything with paddy. Traders are not accustomed to import rice from outside the district to meet a demand, and are even unused to import from one part of the district to another. It is even now said that in parts here and there, there is very little rice available for sale in the markets, or at least, rice is brought in very small quantities for local sale. Considerable quantities are still exported. I notice that over 40,000 cwt. of rice went last week from False Point to

Mauritius. Exports from Chandbally have been very large, but are decreasing. This may mean that raiyats and mahajans both are beginning to try and hold up, but as long as our prices (relatively high to the normal though they be) are lower than elsewhere. Export must go on, and Government forbids interference! At the same time there is absolutely no machinery for imports. In this respect Orissa compares most unfavourably with other parts of the Province. We have a highly organised export trade and no import trade in grain at all.

(c) The Uriya is a bad workman and can earn less money on Railway and other earth-work than up-country coolies.

(d) The Uriya is exceedingly apathetic, and will do little to help himself. He will perhaps hold on to his seed-grain till the last gasp, but do little to help himself and expect to be helped by the sarkar.

13. To try and be ready in some degree for what I fear, I have several estimates for excavating new and clearing old tanks made for those parts of the district where I fear scarcity, and the District Engineer is at present making a tour through some of the parts believed to be worst, for the purpose of seeing what tank and other works can be taken up. If necessary, District Board money can be diverted from schemes which do not supply much earthwork—the best form of relief labour—to projects suitable for relief, and this will be done where necessary. In the Words' Estates I am doing my best to get estimates for works sanctioned, so as to be ready to begin at an early date. I do not go into greater details here, but can do so hereafter if you require them.

I have not yet started any relief works, nor do I think it necessary to do so, although from information received, I fear that I may have to make a start on an early date.

14. I cannot help here pointing out that if the situation does declare itself strongly during the next month or two, it will be absolutely necessary to strengthen the Subdivisional as well as the Sadar staff. Neither of my Subdivisions has a second Officer, and without one the Subdivisional Officers will be unable to cope with their work if scarcity occurs. This of course only refers to an Officer at the head-quarters of a Subdivision to relieve the Subdivisional Officer from some of his routine work, and not to the staff necessary to work a famine, which of course must be considered separately. At the same time at the Sadar I must beg at present that no Officer be taken from me, and that if found necessary hereafter, my requisitions for extra Assistants may be listened to.

Serial number.	Number of pargana.	Number of villages.	Area in square-miles.	Population.	Number of persons likely to require relief.	Month from which relief work will commence.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	23	1,043	278	208,000	20,000	March.	
2	17	Not ascertained	224	173,000	12,000	April. Test work in end of March.	
3	15 { whole 7 } part 8 }	87	173	88,400	10,000		
4	Barki (whole) ...	144	117	58,796	8,000		
5	Kunug ...	195	320	60,477	12,000		
6	Kauika ...	225	265	86,663	20,000		
	Total ...	.....	1,427	683,635	70,000		

CUTTACK COLLECTORATE,
The 24th January 1897.

E. F. GROWER,
Collector.

No. 66, dated Puri, the 9th January 1897.

From—W. H. LEE, Esq., Officiating Collector, Puri,
To—The Commissioner of the Orissa Division.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have now visited some of the parts of Puri district lying between the sea and the Chilka lake. As I am now in camp at Salpara and intend to proceed shortly across the lake to Barkul and the matter is of great urgency, I think it best to report at once, to the extent of my knowledge, and send further reports as I see more.

2. Briefly, these isolated tracts are the worst portion of the district. The paddy crop has been almost totally destroyed (hardly one anna being saved) by the high floods of the Chilka, and the people have no paddy.

3. On the second of January I started from Puri and reached Narsingpatna. Between here and Puri is a vast sandy plain. Around Narsingpatna there has been a little paddy

saved, but 12 or 14 annas of it has been lost. The floods reached here and the drought did the rest.

4. On the 3rd I heard a good deal about the bad crops, but no one here has felt the pinch of distress yet, and the people all look well-fed. Near Burjanga, about 2 miles east of Narsingpatna, there is a large patch of *dahua* paddy (about 100 acres) on the side of the river Swarnamayi, which will, I think, yield well, especially if there is rain in March. The *khaddait* of Narsingpatna says the people will have to pinch and save to pay their revenue. I think they will have to pay.

5. On the 4th I went on across another great stretch of sand to Arakhkuda, 9 miles to the west.

6. On the 5th I went to Manikpatna out-post and heard complaints of the bad crops here and in the neighbouring village of Bhagwanpur, but the general condition of the people seemed to be good. In the afternoon, however, I proceeded to Bhubwanpur, Raypur and Kuakuda, in Killa Rorang at the head of the Lake, and here I first came across real signs of distress. The high embankment, known as the Nuni bund, was breached by the high floods of salt water in August, and growing paddy was absolutely destroyed over huge tracts. The loss here (and I am told over great tracts in the other portions of Chabiskud pargana, north of this part) has been terrible. The floods were due to the filling of the Chilka from the Mahanadi and Katjori, and have not been known so high for very many years. All the tanks were filled up with salt water, and in several villages that I saw, the people can hardly get anything to drink. Of the crop nothing is left, but a brown smear on the ground, like dried water-weed. The people say they have no paddy. I do not think this is the case, but the store is at any rate very small. Those who have a little, are hoarding it carefully and do like to reveal the fact. The poorer people in the villages are suffering considerably, and are largely living on the roots of the tuber grass and on a wholesome *adg* that they pick in the fields. I do not think there is a month's supply of paddy (for full rations) in the littoral portions of Chabiskud. The people profess their willingness to do earthwork, and the repairs of the bund would be at once the readiest and the most profitable form of such relief work to take. With all this I saw very little signs of physical distress among the people. I found one fatherless boy and one unemployed man in a state of hunger. The man was much emaciated. This I think was in Raypur, but I am sorry to say I am not sure. I gave them my provisions (which they ate) and some money, but they say money is no use to them. They say if they are to do earthwork, they must be paid in paddy. No paddy comes here, and there are no traders or shop-keepers.

7. On the 6th I went on to Satpara by the north Bank and saw much the same destruction of the crops in villages Anandpur and Siara, but no signs of real distress or emaciation. In fact the people I saw looked extremely well. I heard there were some widows who were living from hand to mouth. No crops are to be seen and they cannot be grown as there is no water for irrigation. There is a well here and there for drinking water. The people, if properly instructed, might dig wells for themselves in co-operation, but this would not grow crops, and whether it is practicable here, is very doubtful. At Makundpur is a patch of *dahua* on the shores of the lake, but I am afraid there will be little yield from it as the ground is drying up. The problem here is to get paddy in the country. If lives are to be saved paddy must be brought here and stored in *godowns*. If this is not done, there will be a terrible mortality here before September. I am afraid, as it is, we can hardly avoid dreadful scenes here next April and May. Relief works have been and will be ordered. A tank has just been dug at Manikpatna, for instance, at a cost of Rs. 472, and wells have been or are about to be cleaned and repaired at Gopalpur, Alanda, Ora, Deulpara, Sepia, Jenapur, Gamumundia, Nayapara and Kloatiakudi. A road is also sanctioned in Parikud, at a cost of Rs. 6,000. All this is done or to be done at once by the District Board under recent orders. But all this will not save life, unless paddy is brought here. On the other hand the people here can buy any quantity of paddy. It is only a few of the very poorest who are out of money. I have had long conversations with Mr. Parish the Salt Officer, here who has been quietly doing a great deal of good work for the people around. Paddy has been sent over by sarbarakars by the orders of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Khurda from Barkul and Tangi by boat to Satpara, to Mr. Parish, on two occasions. It was sold, the first lot in two days, and the second in one, in *eight-annas-worth*, each boat-load being about 100 maunds. I have written into Puri for ten cart-loads of paddy every week to Satpara, but *godowns* will also have to be established at Arakhkuda, Manikpatna, Parikud and Malud. The people will buy any quantity.

8. On the 8th I went with Mr. Parish to Parala, Gurbai, Janikud and Nayapara (where the salt works are) in Parikud. I saw no signs of emaciation, but the people looked depressed. There is no crop, except a little *mandia* in very bad condition. The great paddy fields are a scene of desolation. The cause is the salt floods. The tanks were all filled up with salt water, and the lands are broken. The people come across to Satpara to try to buy rice. I interviewed the Raja of Parikud. He is having some bunds made as relief works. He is in debt and wants a loan of Rs. 15,000 for relief works. This, I think, should be granted for reasons given in a separate report on the subject. I returned and interviewed the jagirdar of Malud. He says that the condition of things westwards in Malud is even worse than this, and the people are becoming emaciated and one or two deaths have occurred. I am going from Barkul to investigate this. Several people have come from Malud to get rice or work at Satpara. The salt work at Nayapara (near Satpara) has luckily been ordered to be continued, and this will give employment to about 1,000

men. The men already employed there want paddy for pay, and say that money at present is of no value to them.

9. I recapitulate them—

- (1) That the rice crop in these tracts is almost wholly destroyed.
- (2) That there is very little paddy in store.
- (3) That rice must be brought here if the most terrible scenes are to be saved here next spring and summer.
- (4) That relief works will do some good, but very little good unless paddy is brought here.
- (5) That the sooner paddy is brought here in large quantities the better.

The repairs of the Nuni band will probably cost Rs. 10,000. The District Engineer will be asked to make an estimate.

10. Paddy is dear in Puri town, 5,000 maunds are wanted, half for Satpara and half for Parikud for the present. It should be brought down by cart to Tangi or Barkul, and then taken across the lake in boats, the boats being previously arranged for by the Police. A certain quantity, possibly 1,000 maunds, might be got in Khurda. I would suggest that the rest should be brought in Cuttack and sent down to Tangi, by cart, in charge of a European Officer. The money spent on the purchased carriage would all be refunded. There are no traders here, and trade will not bring the rice.

11. Owing to my being in this isolated place, I am unable to put this report into correct form, and hope to be excused.

Further reports will follow.

No. 116, dated Puri, the 20th January 1897.

From—W. H. LEE, Esq., Offg. Collector of Puri,
To—The Commissioner of the Orissa Division, Cuttack.

In continuation of my report of the 4th instant, I beg to state that, on the 10th January I visited Parikud and went over most of the estate. There is evidence of the almost total loss of the rice crop over 10,000 acres in this estate, owing to salt floods, or a loss of paddy worth two lakhs of rupees to sell. It is to be noted, however, that in these isolated tracts there is practically no sale, and the figures quoted as the price of rice are totally fallacious and mean nothing. The Raja has already spent about Rs. 3,000 in bunds to safeguard these fields for next year, but much more is wanted. The tanks are few and are filled with salt water. In spite of these the people look well, and the cattle get good grazing and look plump.

2. On the 12th I visited Malud (again with Mr. Parish, the Salt Officer of Satpara) and walked over a large part of the estate. Things are worse here. The whole of the rice crop has been absolutely lost; it has here been more destroyed by drought than flood. All the women and children are out over the fields all day grubbing up grass-roots; the wonder is the people have survived till now. The whole of Malud is dry, hot and dusty. The water in the tanks is low and green. A terrible water-famine is now unhappily unavoidable here in April and May, when the tanks will be totally dry. The people might get water by digging poshats in the earth, but they will do nothing to help themselves. I had a long talk with the jagirdar. The estate has been under attachment of the Civil Court for 60 years and suffers all the disadvantages of absentee landlordism. The cattle here are terribly emaciated and most of them are dying. I saw some instances of terrible emaciation among the people and distributed money, but money is useless here as pointed out.

3. The police have been ordered to distribute rice *gratis*. I have arranged with a merchant to establish rice godowns at Malud and Parikud. I have opened public subscriptions in Puri town, ordered relief works in the shape of tanks, sent the District Engineer to report, and ordered *taccavi* loans: a little rain in Malud would save many lives.

4. Malud is the worst part of the district: famine may be said to have begun there already. I will proceed according to the Famine Code. The relief works will mostly take the shape of tanks. But the people will have to be paid in rice, or they will do very little good.

5. The export from Puri town by sea to Bombay is drawing a large quantity of rice from the district. This I am afraid cannot be interfered with, but the export merchants have established such a boycott among the carters, that no carter will fetch paddy from Khurda, where rice is 23 seers, to relieve the town people who cannot get more than 13. If allowed, I will break through this.

Also cannot the exportation of rice by rail from the Government khas mahal be stopped? It will be the direct cause of famine in June round Banpur, if allowed to go on now.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1897.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

[Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.]

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
ABSTRACT of the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, held on the 13th of February 1897	573	EXPORTS of food-grains by rail from Howrah	606
Water-supply	587	Weather and Crop Report for the week ending the 22nd February 1897	617
Liberality of Rao Jogendra Narayan Roy	588	Prices-current (retail) of Food-grains, Fire-wood and Salt in the Head-quarters Station Bazars of the Districts of Bengal on the 15th February 1897	632
Liberality of Rai Setab Chund Nahar, Bahadur, of Azimganj	590	Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 14th to 20th February 1897	633
Report on the state of the salt market for the third quarter of 1896-97	590	Results of the Barometrical and Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee from 14th to 20th February 1897	639
Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta	593	Vital Statistics of the Districts of Bengal for the month of December 1896	639
Statistics of the Sea-Borne Traffic of Calcutta in Food-grains	593	Areas leased for irrigation up to the end of December 1896	639
Statistics of the Sea-Borne Traffic of the minor ports in Bengal in Food-Grains	598	Circular, and Eastern Circular for the week ending Saturday, the 20th February 1897	633
Memorandum on the imports and exports of food-grains to and from Calcutta during November 1896	603	Weekly return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways	634

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861 and 1892.

THE Council met at the Council Chamber on Saturday, the 13th February, 1897.

Present:

The Hon'ble SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, K.C.S.I., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, *presiding*.
 The Hon'ble SIR CHARLES PAUL, K.C.I.E., Advocate-General of Bengal.
 The Hon'ble H. H. RISLEY, C.I.E.
 The Hon'ble RAI DURGA GATI BANERJEE, BAHADUR, C.I.E.
 The Hon'ble NAWAB SYUD AMEER HOSSEIN, C.I.E.
 The Hon'ble C. E. BUCKLAND, C.I.E.
 The Hon'ble M. FINUCANE.
 The Hon'ble C. W. BOLTON.
 The Hon'ble W. H. GRIMLEY.
 The Hon'ble J. G. H. GLASS, C.I.E.
 The Hon'ble C. A. WILKINS.
 The Hon'ble SURENDRANATH BANERJEE.
 The Hon'ble A. M. BOSE.
 The Hon'ble RAI ESHAN CHUNDRA MITTRA, BAHADUR.
 The Hon'ble GURU PROSHAD SEN.
 The Hon'ble M. S. DAS.
 The Hon'ble SAHIBZADA MAHOMED BAKHTYAR SHAH.

FORCIBLE REMOVAL OF SMALL-POX PATIENTS TO HOSPITAL.

The Hon'ble BABU GURU PROSHAD SEN asked—

Has the attention of Government been drawn to an article in the *Statesman* newspaper, published in its issue of the 17th January, regarding certain cases of forcible removal of patients suffering from small-pox in the town of Howrah from their houses to the General Hospital, by order of the authorities, notwithstanding that the relatives offered to isolate them in their own houses and to arrange for their treatment?

Will it please Government to rule that in such cases, forcible removal, specially of females and children, is not necessary; and even if in any case the isolation being impracticable in their own houses, the removal of the patients to isolation hospitals comes to be necessary, the relations, if they are willing to attend on the patients, and to remain isolated, shall be allowed to do so?

The Hon'ble MR. RISLEY replied:—

“The facts referred to in the first part of the question are, it is believed, now under judicial enquiry. The Lieutenant-Governor is not prepared to lay down any general rules on the subject of the isolation of persons suffering from small-pox. It is for the responsible medical officer to decide in each case whether the removal of a patient to hospital is desirable in the interests of the public, and to use his influence to bring about such removal, while it is for the Superintendent of the hospital to determine whether relatives can be allowed to attend on such patients. Where the outbreak is severe and the hospital is crowded, such an arrangement would obviously be impossible.”

SALE OF ESTATES FOR ARREARS OF REVENUE.

The Hon'ble BABU GURU PROSHAD SEN asked—

To ensure the sale of the estates for arrears of Government revenue at adequate prices, will the Government be pleased to order that all sales for arrears of Government revenue take place on certain fixed days in each quarter, say 15th March for all arrears unpaid on the 12th January, and all arrears of previous *kists*, the sales for which could not be arranged at an earlier quarter sale day; 30th May for all arrears unpaid on the 28th March and previous *kists* when necessary; 15th August for all arrears unpaid on the 7th June, and 30th November for arrears unpaid on the 28th September or on any other date which the Board of Revenue may fix either for all districts, or district by district, in consultation with the local authorities, instead of, as now, leaving the dates to be fixed by the Collector, or his ministerial officer, according to the convenience of the office? Is the Government aware that such a rule in the case of sales for execution of decrees of Civil Courts brings in Court a large number of intending purchasers on the fixed sale days, and results in the properties being sold at their adequate prices?

The Hon'ble MR. FINUCANE replied:—

“A proposal similar to that now made by the Hon'ble Member was submitted to the Board of Revenue by the Bihar Landholders' Association, and was fully considered by them. The Board, for the reasons stated in their letter No. 703A, dated the 14th March, 1896, a copy of which is laid upon the table, were unable to accept the proposal. The Government agree with the Board.”

No. 703A, dated Calcutta, the 14th May, 1896.

From—F. A. SLACK, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.,
To—The Secretary, Bihar Landholders' Association.

In continuation of the Board's letter No. 1244A, dated the 6th of September, 1895, regarding the dates for holding sales under the Revenue Sale Law and the Certificate Procedure, I am now directed to communicate the following observations with reference to your letter of the 23rd of August, 1895, in which it is suggested (1) that the rule of having sales on a certain day in a month may be advantageously adopted with regard to sales under the Certificate Act, and that the 15th of each month be fixed as the date, the hour being one later or earlier than that fixed for the Civil Court sales, where such happen on the 15th; and (2) that revenue sales should take place on a certain date in each quarter to be known by the people beforehand, and that certain dates proposed by the Association may be fixed for such sales.

2. With regard to the first point, I am to say—

- (a) that the matter had already attracted the notice of the Board by whom was issued clause VI of rule 1, Section IV, page 26, of the Certificate Procedure Manual of 1895, a copy of which is herewith enclosed;
- (b) that the Board have reason to believe that these instructions are followed in most districts, and that the attention of the Divisional Commissioners will again be drawn to the subject with a view of introducing the procedure where such has not already been done; and
- (c) that, bearing in mind the variations in the requirements of the different districts, the date or dates on which such sales should be held monthly is a matter which must be left to the discretion of the Collector concerned to settle.

3. Referring to the second point, concerning the dates of sales for arrears of revenue, I am to state that, in order to go through the whole of the necessary procedure, much more time is requisite than the Association appear to think, and that, in order to provide for all chances of illness among, and delay on the part of, the establishment, a long term would have to be fixed, which would be inconvenient. If this were not done, there would be great risk of occasional, possibly frequent, failures on the part of the Collector's establishment to have the requisite arrangements completed by the day appointed for the sale. This would render postponements of three months necessary, and the public interests would thereby suffer. Further, it would not be convenient that sales of estates under section 14 of Act XI of 1859, for the defaults of shares, should be put off for so long as three months, as they would probably have to be if certain days were fixed, on which alone sales could take place. I am also to add that experience shows both that the attendance at revenue sales is good, and that the dates are well known beforehand. The Board therefore do not find themselves in a position to concur with the Association's proposal.

No. 704A.

Copy forwarded to all Commissioners for information, and for communication to the District Officers under them, for their information and guidance.

By order of the Board of Revenue, L.P.,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secretary.

CALCUTTA;
The 14th May, 1896. }

ROAD-CESS PAPERS.

The Hon'ble BABU GURU PROSHAD SEN asked—

With the same object in view, will the Government be pleased, by an executive order, to rule that road-cess papers, showing the annual value of estates advertised for sale, form a part of the sale Records, and a return from Registration office, showing the incumbrances on the shares of estates to be sold, in cases of sales of shares under section 13 of the Revenue Sale Law, it being made one of the conditions of sales that they are nowise to be affected by the incorrectness of these returns?

The Hon'ble MR. FINUCANE replied:—

“In the opinion of Government it is not desirable to make the rule suggested. Any person intending to buy has ample time beforehand to make his own enquiries, and if the validity of the sale is not to be affected by the incorrectness of the returns alluded to, then such returns would be of no practical value.”

REDEMPTION OF ESTATES.

The Hon'ble BABU GURU PROSHAD SEN asked—

Will the Government be pleased to state what is the number of estates that had to be redeemed under section 10 of the Estates Partition Act [Act VIII (B.C.) of 1876]? What amount has been received by Government on account of these redemptions? Whether this amount has not been kept separate from the ordinary revenue; whether it has been invested; and whether the yearly income from the investment is not more than the annual land revenue which Government has lost?

The Hon'ble MR. FINUCANE replied:—

“It would seem that the section referred to by the Hon'ble Member is 11 and not 10. In the Annual Land Revenue Administration Report of the Board of Revenue, a publication that can be bought by the public, the number of estates redeemed up to date, the Government revenue on the same, and the price realized, are given. The figures up to the end of 1895-96 are given on page 13 of the Land Revenue Administration Report for that year, and are as follows:—

Number of estates	...	...	...	2,620
				Rs.
Government revenue	...	...	...	1,312
Price realized	...	...	...	37,329

“The amount realised is not kept separate from the ordinary revenue and is not invested.”

MOTI LAL'S CASE.

The Hon'ble BABU GURU PROSHAD SEN asked—

Has the attention of Government been drawn to an article in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* newspaper, headed “The case of Moti Lal,” published in the issue of that newspaper dated the 9th January, 1897? Will the Government be pleased to order an enquiry into the truth or otherwise of the statements contained in a memorial of Moti Lal, said to have been submitted by him to Government, about the conduct and proceedings of Mr. Lyall, the Subdivisional Officer of Siwan, in connection with this case?

The Hon'ble Mr. BOLTON replied:—

"The attention of the Government has been drawn to the article referred to, and an enquiry has been made. The allegations made against the Subdivisional Officer in the Memorial submitted to Government by Moti Lal appear to be for the most part without foundation, but as charges are still pending against the Memorialist for fraud in connection with stamps, the Lieutenant-Governor will not for the present pass orders on his petition."

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE COMMISSIONER OF BURDWAN.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE asked—

(a) Whether the attention of the Government has been called to the letter

To—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

May it please Your Honour,—I beg most respectfully to tender resignation, under section 27A (1) of the Municipal Act, of my post of Chairman of the Kalna Municipality on account of the unnecessarily harsh and insulting manner with which the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, Mr. C. E. Buckland, C.I.E., was pleased to treat me during his inspection of the Municipality on the 6th January, 1897.

I have the honour to be, Your Honour's most obedient servant, Suriya Narayan Sarbadhikari, Chairman of the Kalna Municipality.

the result of the enquiry and the orders passed?

quoted in the margin which has been reproduced in several newspapers, and whether having regard to the allegations made therein, the Government will be pleased to make an enquiry and state the facts of the case? If the Government has already enquired into the case and passed orders, will the Government be pleased to communicate to the Council

(b) Is it the case that the Municipal Commissioners of Kalna, at a meeting held on the 12th January last, recorded a Resolution expressing their deep regret at the resignation of their Chairman, Babu Suriya Narayan Sarbadhikari, "especially," to quote the words of the Resolution, "as the resignation is due only to the harsh and insulting treatment received at the hands of the Divisional Commissioner during his inspection of the Municipal Office," and that at that meeting they further recorded a Resolution that the "Commissioners as a body felt it a deep humiliation at the improper treatment of their Chairman by the Divisional Commissioner"? Has the Government received a copy of this Resolution which by the terms of the Resolution of the Commissioners was to have been forwarded to the Local Government through the proper channel? If so, will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken upon it?

The Hon'ble Mr. RISLEY replied:—

"The papers of the case are laid upon the table. The Commissioner of Burdwan absolutely denies having treated the Chairman of the Kalna Municipality in an 'unnecessarily harsh and insulting manner,' and the Magistrate of Burdwan, who was present during the inspection, did not observe anything which could be so construed. In his letter of the 2nd February, Mr. Buckland expresses his regret that his criticisms on the municipal administration should have been regarded by the Chairman as unduly severe, and gives an assurance that nothing personal was intended. It was clearly the Commissioner's duty to point out any shortcomings in the municipal administration. This being so, the Lieutenant-Governor will await a further communication from the Chairman before accepting his resignation."

No. 105M, dated Chinsura, the 2nd February, 1897.

From—C. E. BUCKLAND, Esq., C.I.E., Offg. Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the orders of Government, a copy of a letter, No. 449M, dated 25th—26th January, 1897, from the Magistrate of Burdwan, enclosing a communication from the Chairman of the Kalna Municipality, resigning his appointment as Chairman.

2. I absolutely deny that I treated the Chairman in an "unnecessarily harsh and insulting manner." It was my duty, in the course of my inspection, to point out plainly that the collections were bad and that the arrear balances were high; also that the arrangements made by the Municipality for preserving the purity of the water-supply of the town were altogether insufficient. A copy of my inspection note, dated the 6th January, 1897, is enclosed. I regret that my criticisms on the municipal administration in these matters should have been regarded as they have been by the Chairman, and I am willing to assure him that nothing personal was intended. He gave me at the time no reason whatever to suppose that his feelings were wounded, either at the office or in our walk through the town.

3. It will be observed that the Magistrate of Burdwan, who was with me on the occasion, saw nothing in my remarks to justify the construction put upon them by the Chairman.

4. I beg to recommend that the Chairman's resignation be accepted.

No. 449M, dated Burdwan, the 25th—26th January, 1897.

From—W. DUNBAR BLYTH, E.-a. Magistrate of Burdwan,
To—The Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of letter No. 186 of the 13th instant, from the Chairman of the Kalna Municipality, together with a copy of the minutes of a meeting of the Commissioners held on the 12th idem, together with the resignation (in original) submitted by Babu Surya Narayan Sarvadhikari of his appointment as Chairman of that Municipality.

2. I heard you finding faults with the arrears in collections, and also with the absence of arrangements for preserving from pollution those tanks which had been nominally set aside for the supply of drinking water for the town, but I did not observe anything which could be construed into treating the Chairman "in a harsh and insulting manner."

Inspection Report on the Kalna Municipality.

VISITED the Kalna Municipality. Babu Surya Narayan Sarvadhikari Chairman. He is also a medical practitioner. The drainage scheme of part of the town has been once submitted to the Sanitary Engineer, and returned by him for an opinion as to the area to be drained: it will now be resubmitted very shortly; no estimate has yet been prepared. I am afraid that the Municipality is bent on too ambitious a scheme. The municipal income is about Rs. 8,000 (excluding latrine fees), so that it seems out of the question to go in for a drainage scheme costing a large sum. A much simpler scheme for letting off by culverts under roads all the water that collects on the higher land is all that is required. As to the burning ghâts, I am glad to say that the matter has been settled, as both the burning ghâts (1) for the fair-weather, (2) for the monsoon, are now to be regulated under section 259. The other points noticed by Mr. Bourdillon in June, 1895, have been receiving attention.

I looked into the collections under the head "Tax on persons and for latrine fees." A statement of the collections, demands and arrears is attached. It is evident that the collections are not good and that the arrears are too high. Much greater attention must be paid to collecting properly. As to water-supply, I am told that there are five tanks set apart for drinking water, named:—

Baruipara	...	...	...	(Municipal.)
Kassaripara	...	...	...	(Ditto.)
Samajdighi	...	...	...	(Burdwan Raj.)
Laldighi	...	...	...	(Ditto.)
Mandopakhur	...	...	...	(Benode Lal Sen'a.)

These five tanks are not watched by chaukidars. No prosecutions are ever instituted for soiling these tanks. It seems to me that the administration of the water-supply is very lax, and the Municipality should do much more to preserve the purity of the water. It is all nonsense to tell me that the order of the Municipality that certain tanks are to be preserved for drinking water is never disobeyed. I saw some of these tanks. The Laldighi looked fairly good. The Baruipara tank is very bad. The Samajdighi is very large. There was much dirt of animals on the bank. In fact there is no real attempt made to keep the water clear. A chaukidar should be appointed for each tank to enforce the notice prohibiting bathing, washing, &c., and to keep animals off the bank. The tanks should also be fenced.

There are 248 tanks in all, of which 46 are classed as wholesome and 202 as unwholesome. I see nothing to prevent anybody in the municipality from drinking from any of these sources of supply if they choose to do so.

There are two sets of public latrines, and a third has been sanctioned. They are cleared by sweepers, and the night-soil removed in carts. The trenching ground is $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile off. There are 16 sweepers in the town altogether. The town was as clean as any I have seen. I spoke also to the Chairman of the importance of preventing the pukka drains from being built over by encroachments. No permanent structure over the drains should be allowed, and all in existence should be removed by due process. If such little "bridges" are allowed, it becomes impossible to clear the drains properly.

KALNA;
The 6th January, 1897.

C. E. BUCKLAND,
Officiating Commissioner.

Abstract statement showing demand, collection, remission, and outstanding balance of tax upon persons and latrine fees levied within the Kalna Municipality during the first three quarters of 1896-97.

PARTICULARS.	DEMAND.				Total collections during first three quarters of 1896-97, as per quarterly statement.	Total remissions granted during first three quarters of 1896-97.	Outstanding balance on close of 31st December, 1896.	REMARKS.
	1st quarter of 1896-97.	2nd quarter of 1896-97.	3rd quarter of 1896-97.	Total of 1st three quarters of 1896-97.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Tax upon persons.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	(a) This amount shows total collection as remitted to treasury, besides Rs. 118-13 on account of collection on 31st December, 1896 remained in hand of tax-daroga and credited on 2nd January, 1897, hence reducing the actual outstanding on close of 31st December, 1896 to Rs. 891-1-9.
No. I ...	791 15 0	695 12 0	607 3 0	2,094 14 0				
No. II ...	354 14 3	350 1 0	369 1 3	1,054 1 3				
No. III ...	351 7 0	340 14 0	349 12 0	1,051 2 0				
Total of Municipality...	1,496 4 3	1,385 12 0	1,336 0 9	4,217 1 9	(a) 3,485 8 6	106 10 6	1,007 14 9	
Latrine fees under section 390.								(b) This amount shows total collection as remitted to treasury, besides Rs. 60-13 on account of collection on 31st December, 1896 remained in hand of tax-daroga and remitted on 2nd January, 1897, hence reducing the actual outstanding on close of 31st December, 1896 to Rs. 304-4.
No. I ...	255 4 0	254 5 6	240 7 6	750 1 6				
No. II ...	121 0 0	121 3 0	120 12 0	363 4 0				
No. III ...	124 1 3	123 11 3	123 9 9	371 0 3				
Total of Municipality...	500 12 3	499 9 9	483 13 3	1,483 15 3	(b) 1,101 15 6	36 11 9	335 1 0	

S. N. SARVADHIKARI,
Chairman.

KALNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE;
The 6th January, 1897.

No. 114M, dated Chinsura, the 6th February, 1897.

From—C. E. BUCKLAND, Esq., C.I.E., Offg. Commissioner of the Burdwan Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department.

With reference to your letter No. 615M, dated 5th February, 1897, calling for certain papers connected with the resignation tendered by Babu Surjya Narain Sarbadhikari of his office as Chairman of the Kalna Municipality, I have the honour to submit herewith the papers in question, and to express my regret that, contrary to my express orders, my office should have omitted to forward them with my letter No. 105M of the 2nd instant.

No. 186, dated Kalna, the 13th January, 1897.

From—BABU SURJYA NARAIN SARBADHIKARI, Chairman of the Kalna Municipality,
To—The Magistrate of Burdwan.

In pursuance of the provisions of section 27A (1) of the amended Bengal Municipal Act, I have the honour to forward herewith an application of my resignation from the office of Chairman of the Kalna Municipality, and to request that you will be kind enough to forward the same to the Local Government for acceptance. A copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners, passed at a special meeting held on the 12th instant, is herewith enclosed. As the Municipal Commissioners have expressed their willingness in that meeting that a copy of their proceedings recorded therein should accompany my application of resignation to Government, I beg to solicit, on behalf of the Municipal Commissioners, that you will be so kind as to forward the enclosed copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the said meeting, along with my application of resignation, to the Local Government.

A special meeting of the Commissioners of the Kalna Municipality was held on 12th January, 1897.

PRESENT:

Babu Mohendra Nath Singh	...	Vice-Chairman.
" Aghore Nath Chatterjee	...	Members.
" Ram Lal Mukerjee	...	
" Madhab Chand Mehera	...	
" Bidhu Bhusan Mukerjee	...	
" Bunwari Lal Biswas	...	
" Nilmoni Mukerjee	...	
" Taradhona Bhattacharjee	...	
" Durga Churn Ganguly	...	
Sheik Babulla	...	

1. The Vice-Chairman presided in the absence of the Chairman.
2. This meeting has been convened at the request of the Chairman, Babu Surjya Narain Sarbadhikari, to forward his letter of resignation of his office of Chairman of the Kalna Municipality.
3. Read his resignation letter addressed to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.
4. The Commissioners deeply regret at the resignation of Babu Surjya Narain Sarbadhikari who has been serving this Municipality as its worthy Chairman for a good many years with ability, honesty, efficiency, and devotedness to the satisfaction of the public as well as of the superior authorities, especially as the resignation is due only to the harsh and insulting treatment received at the hands of the Divisional Commissioner, Mr. C. E. Buckland, c.s., c.i.e., during his inspection of the Municipal Office on the 6th January last.
5. The Commissioners as a body feel it a deep humiliation at the improper treatment to their Chairman by the Divisional Commissioner.
6. Resolved that a copy of the proceedings of this meeting be annexed to the Chairman's letter of resignation, and that they be sent to the District Magistrate for forwarding them to the Local Government through proper channel.

MOHENDRA NATH SINGH,
Vice-Chairman, Presiding.
RAM LAL MUKERJEE.
BUNWARI LAL BISWAS.
BIDHU BHUSAN MUKERJEE.
TARADHONA BHATTACHARJEE.
DURGA CHURN GANGULY.
AGHORE NATH CHATTERJEE.
SHEIK BABULLA (in Bengali).
NILMONI MUKERJEE.
MADHAB CHAND MEHERA (in Bengali).

Dated Kalna, the 10th January, 1897.

FROM—SURJYA NARAIN SARBADHIKARI, Chairman of the Kalna Municipality,
TO—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR—

I beg most respectfully to tender resignation of my post of Chairman of the Kalna Municipality on account of the unnecessarily harsh and insulting manner with which the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, Mr. C. E. Buckland, c.s., c.i.e., was pleased to treat me during his inspection of the Municipality on the 6th January, 1897.

MURRAY TRUST BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. FINUCANE presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to enlarge the scope of the Charitable Trust created by the Will of the late Mrs. Sally Murray, and moved that the Report be taken into consideration. He said:—

"The Select Committee met and their report was in circulation and had been in the hands of Hon'ble Members for some time. The Committee had no changes to propose in the Bill, and, as I believe there can be no objection to its provisions, I now move that the Report be taken into consideration."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. FINUCANE also moved that the Bill be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

this end, in my capacity as Commissioner, I issued a Proclamation drawing general attention to the custom of the country as recognised by Government and the Courts, and warning zamindars of the penal consequence of forcibly exacting labour in excess of the amount prescribed by custom, and urging the raiyats to perform their customary tasks willingly and ungrudgingly. An officer was also deputed to make enquiries in certain of the villages in the disaffected parts, as to the character and extent of these disputes, but these measures, though effectual in restoring order and in showing both parties that their claims were receiving attention, could not be expected to have a lasting result. In the meanwhile, I was in correspondence with Government as to the best means of bringing about a better understanding between landlord and tenant. I will not weary the Council by reciting the details of that correspondence, but the conclusion arrived at, with the concurrence of the Government of India, was that the object in view might be attained by extending the Bengal Tenancy Act to Chota Nagpur and giving Government the power of ordering commutation of services whenever it considered that the adoption of such a course would be calculated to avert serious dispute.

"The existing disputes chiefly fall under three heads—

(1) The assessment of rent on excess lands, that is, certain lands which the holders have somehow managed to retain possession of without payment of rent after failing to prove a bhuinhari title;

(2) the enhancement of rents paid by the tenants; and

(3) the exaction of excessive service and rakumats by the zamindar. The settlement of the first two classes of disputes will be much facilitated by the introduction of the Bengal Tenancy Act into Chota Nagpur, while, as regards the last, the main object of the present Bill is the preparation of a record of the predial services and conditions rendered by the tenants and their commutation into money rents when found necessary for the preservation of the peace of the country. The landlords mostly favour the system of services and cesses, and the raiyats are not opposed to it when they are on good terms with their zamindars. There is therefore no need for interference when the parties can arrange their differences amicably among themselves. It is not proposed, then, to make commutation absolutely obligatory, but only where the parties have recourse to the authorities to settle their disputes, or where the disputes are likely to induce a breach of the peace. This is provided for in Chapter III of the Bill. It may at first sight appear that the provisions of this Chapter trench on those of Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, and that two concurrent procedures will, if this Bill be adopted, be provided for the same object; but this is not strictly correct: for whereas Chapter X of the Tenancy Act requires a survey to precede the record of rights, a survey is not indispensable under Chapter III. Where there has already been a regular survey, as in the Khalsa villages of the Chota Nagpur estate in the Lohardaga district, in the Barkagarh estate in the same district, and in the Dhanwar estate in Hazaribagh, a fresh measurement will be unnecessary. It will equally not be required where there is no difference of opinion between the zamindar and the raiyats as to the quantity of land held, whether such quantity is expressed in bighas or acres, or in the local standard of annas, powas, khuris, or kata. As to the rates, conditions, and predial services, the Revenue Officer can certainly ascertain and enter these in the record without measuring the land. It would undoubtedly be an advantage to have a survey before a record is made, but the survey would often entail a heavy cost, and it must be borne in mind that in Chota Nagpur the zamindars and tenants are comparatively very poor, and that few of them would be able to afford the expenditure. The record of existing rents is indispensable, because it is provided in the Bill that in commuting predial conditions and services, the Revenue Officer shall limit the money value of them to one-fourth the existing rent paid by each tenant concerned, a limit of this kind being necessary in order to prevent the incidence of commutation falling heavily on raiyats with small rentals. Where there are chronic disputes as to the existing rents, while it will be the duty of the Revenue Officer to do his best to ascertain and record what those rents are, it is not necessary to make any

provision in the Bill for the determination of new, fair and equitable rents. Where such a course is found necessary, the provisions of the Tenancy Act should be followed. In the present Act a distinction is maintained between executive proceedings and suits, appeals in the former being dealt with by Revenue Officers, and in the latter by Judicial Officers, and it has been thought necessary to preserve a like distinction as regards the proceedings under this Chapter. While ordinarily an appeal will lie to the Commissioner, and both the Commissioner and the Board have powers of revision, the Bill provides that, where any question of title or status or right of possession to land is at issue, an appeal shall lie from the order of the Commissioner to the High Court. Section 16 of the Bill provides for the defraying of the costs of commutation proceedings and follows section 114 of the Tenancy Act, with the difference that it authorises the Revenue Officer to require a deposit in advance from the person applying for commutation.

"Chapter II of the Bill is a reproduction with a slight modification of sections 19 and 20 of the present Act, which prescribe the incidents as regards liability to enhancement of certain tenures peculiar to Chota Nagpur. The holders of *khuntkati* tenures are men whose ancestors by their own exertions cleared the forest by cutting away the *khunt* or stumps of trees, and brought the land into cultivation. Korkar, which is also known by the other terms mentioned in section 5, is low rice land which has been prepared from high land by the expenditure of much labour. All these lands have special privileges as regards liability to enhancement of rent. Take Korkar for instance. The rent cannot be enhanced except under the terms of a written contract, or in accordance with the custom of the village. But in practice it is difficult to prove what the general custom of a village is, and therefore it is proposed to alter the law by providing that, where the custom cannot be ascertained in a particular village, the custom in the neighbouring village may be considered.

"Chapter IV relates to the registration and resumption of intermediate tenures, which are defined in Chapter I to mean a dependent taluk, and any other permanent or heritable interest in land intermediate between the zamindar and the cultivator and to include a resumable tenure. A definition is given of a 'resumable tenure' so as to include a large class of tenures peculiar to Chota Nagpur, which owe their origin to grants made by the Rajas, and which are held conditionally on the survival of a male heir of the original grantee. The Chapter has been added to the Bill with a view to remove difficulties under which zamindars and tenure-holders in Chota Nagpur both labour. The matter is somewhat complicated, but it may serve to elucidate it if I quote from a description of this Chapter which I gave as Commissioner in a letter addressed to Government.

"The zamindar requires that all transfers of under-tenures within his zamindari should be registered in his sarishta, so that he may have no difficulty in finding out the person who is responsible to him for the rent of the under-tenure. Section 34 of Act I (B.C.) of 1879 arms him with a very efficacious method of enforcing registration of transfers by succession or inheritance. This section can be taken advantage of by any one obtaining possession of a taluk or tenure by succession or inheritance only, be the taluk or tenure one saleable under section 123 or one in which the right and interests only of the tenure-holder are saleable under section 124. Section 35 would seem to indicate that the transfer by private sale of a transferable tenure or taluk, saleable absolutely under section 123, can also be registered under section 34; but in the case of tenures held conditionally on the survival of male heirs of the original grantees, transfer by private sale cannot be registered under sections 34 and 35, even if the transferees be willing to have their names registered, unless the zamindar chooses to do so on receipt of a large bonus in the shape of a *salami*. Again, while mukarrari and other permanent tenures, which are saleable under section 123, when sold for arrears of rent, are sold free of all encumbrances created by the tenure-holder, the effect of the existing law is that jagirs and other tenures which are held conditionally on the survival of male heirs of the original grantees, and which are admittedly of an inferior status when they fall into arrears, cannot be sold free of all encumbrances by the grantees or their

male heirs. In such tenures only the rights and interests of the grantees or their male heirs are saleable. The result of this anomaly is that, while a zamindar can, under the existing law in Chota Nagpur, very easily recover arrears of rent due by a permanent transferable tenure, by putting it up to sale in execution of a decree for arrears of rent, and selling it free of all encumbrances created by the tenure-holder, he has no such means of recovering his arrears from the holders of tenures held conditionally on the survival of male heirs, for it very often happens that, knowing the defect in the existing law, the grantees or their male heirs let out their tenures in sub-lease or mortgage, reserving only a nominal rent, which is often less than the rent they have to pay to the superior landlord. For instance, A, the jagirdar of a tenure, has to pay an annual rent of Rs. 100 to his superior zamindar, but he lets out his whole tenure either in mukarari or zaripeshgi for a nominal rent of Rs. 5 to B. B enjoys the rents and profits derived from the tenure and pays only Rs. 5 per annum to A. But A defaults in paying the Rs. 100 payable to his superior landlord. The superior landlord sues A and obtains a decree against him and puts up his tenure to sale under section 124 of Act I (B.C.) of 1879. No one comes forward to purchase the tenure, for it is only the rights and interests of A which can be sold under that section, and the purchase of these means the acquisition of the right of receiving Rs. 5 per annum from B, with a liability of paying Rs. 100 per annum to the superior landlord. To remove this anomaly in the rules framed for carrying on the sale of the rights and interests of an under-tenure-holder of the class referred to in section 124 of Act I (B.C.) of 1879, under instructions of the Board of Revenue, provision was made for making B, or any other sub-tenure-holder under him, a party to the suit to be instituted by the zamindar for the recovery of the rents due to him from A. It was held that when section 124 authorised the sale of the right and title of any person in the tenure, the rights and interests of any subordinate tenure-holder under A can be sold under that section, but that, in order to enable the zamindar to effect such sale, it is essential that he should make all such sub-tenure-holders parties to the suit to be instituted by him against A. The High Court of Calcutta, however, has held that such a procedure is perfectly illegal and is not authorized by law.

• • • • •

“A purchaser can be easily ousted from his holding in the event of a collusion between the zamindar and the original jagirdar or his male heirs. The purchaser has no right to apply for the registration of his name in the zamindar's sarishta, neither does the zamindar consider it safe on his part to admit him to registration, for, by doing so, he endangers his right of resumption in the event of a failure of the male heirs of the original grantees. After having once parted with their interests, the original grantees or their heirs cease to have any interest in having their names registered in the event of succession or inheritance in their families, and if the zamindar can induce the heirs of the original grantees to sit idle and keep themselves away, the zamindar can very easily obtain khas possession of the tenure. The power given by section 34 of Act I (B.C.) of 1879 is a tremendous lever in the hands of the zamindar, and can be exercised in a way which can cause ruin to the purchaser of a tenure. The object of Chapter IV of the proposed Bill is to remove the difficulty which the zamindar now labours under in the matter of the recovery of his rents, and at the same time to save purchasers from the inevitable ruin which awaits them whenever there is a succession in the families of the original grantees and the heirs of the latter are bought off by the zamindar. It will make all tenures held conditionally on the survival of male heirs of the original grantees freely transferable, as any other permanent under-tenure saleable under section 123 of Act I (B.C.) of 1879, and will give the purchasers the privilege of having their names registered in the zamindar's sarishta and of enjoying their tenures so long as there are male heirs of the original grantees, and so long as they pay the rents due to the zamindar with regularity, and at the same time of preserving the zamindar's right of resumption on failure of male heirs of the original grantees intact.

"With this explanation of the provisions of the Bill, I beg to move that it be referred to a Select Committee."

The Hon'ble BABU GURU PROSHAD SEN said:—"I do not understand why it should be necessary for the Government to take more powers under this Bill. Ordinarily parties have got the right to move for commutation of services under section 7. It is not the case that the raiyats in Chutia Nagpur are very weak and unable to defend their rights. From the Hon'ble Member's own statement it appears that the Missionaries have taken the raiyats by the hand and are fostering a spirit of independence among them and reviving the traditions of olden times when each person was in a manner the proprietor of the soil which he cultivated, and have encouraged aspirations which are not likely to be realised, and, further, it appears that all the Missions in Chutia Nagpur—the Anglican, the German Lutheran, and the Roman Catholic—are supporting the cause of these Kols. If therefore they thought that commutations would be advantageous to them, they would move for it of themselves. I do not therefore understand why it is necessary to take further powers under section 8 of this Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. M. S. DAS said:—"As the Bill is going before a Select Committee, they will consider the point which has been raised by the Hon'ble Member. I understand that there may be cases in which it may be necessary to exercise such a power in the interests both of zamindars and tenants. But as the learned Advocate-General is here, I would ask whether the provisions of section 14 can legally find a place in this Bill: whether this Legislature has the power to take away the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts?"

The Hon'ble SIR CHARLES PAUL said:—"As this Bill is to be referred to a Select Committee of which I am to be a member, the question can be considered there. I am not prepared to give an opinion at once."

The Hon'ble MR. RISLEY said:—"The Hon'ble Member who spoke last but one has challenged the right of the Government to intervene between zamindars and raiyats in respect of the commutation of predial conditions or services. Having some personal experience in the Chutia Nagpur Division, I can say with confidence that if there is one place in the world where it is necessary to resort to legislation to give a right of intervention in such cases, it is in Chutia Nagpur, where you have a class of raiyats who possess a power of combination and are well able to take care of themselves; and they have been in the past, though I hope not in the future, to some extent supported by the missionaries. If the parties would by combined action come to a settlement, there may be no reason for the Government to exercise the power here proposed to be given. A further reason is that in all the districts of that division the arrangements relating to land are in a state which can only be described as closely approaching to chaos. I know of estates in which there is absolutely no system of land registration, and the unit upon which rent is ascertained is not the bigha or the acre, but by the maund of seed: the people paid their rents in maunds of paddy or other produce. In my memory in certain groups of villages the area of land represented by this arbitrary seed unit varied from 7 to 35 bighas, and the mere fact of the existence of such a state of things is conclusive proof of the necessity for a power of interference to settle disputes which in that part of the country often end in actual bloodshed."

The Hon'ble MR. GRIMLEY said:—"I have only one word to add. I pointed out on the very first occasion on which I explained the objects and reasons of this Bill, that section 25 of the existing Act I (B.C.) of 1879, which provides for the voluntary commutation of predial conditions or services, is not found sufficient where there are serious disputes between the parties, and that it was decided after due consideration to allow the Government to intervene whenever they find it necessary to do so in order to preserve the peace of the country. That is the only reason why it is proposed to give this power."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"It is only necessary for me to say, with reference to the observation which fell from the Hon'ble Mr. Das as to the power of this Council to touch the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts, that this Bill has been introduced with the sanction of the Government of India, and is therefore quite within the powers of this Council."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Saturday, the 27th instant.

F. G. WIGLEY,

*Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
Legislative Department.*

CALCUTTA ;
The 23rd February, 1897. }

WATER-SUPPLY.

No. 974L.S.-G.—The 20th February 1897.—The following report of the progress made in the several districts of the Chota Nagpur Division in collecting and placing on record the chief facts regarding water-supply is published for general information.

H. H. RISLEY,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 471T.—R.O., dated Camp Hazaribagh, the 12th February 1897.

From—A. FORBES, Esq., c.s.i., Officiating Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department.

In reference to your Circular No. 58L.S.-G., dated the 12th December 1896, requesting submission of quarterly reports of the progress made in each district of this division in collecting and placing on record the chief facts regarding water-supply and the steps, if any, that have been taken by Municipalities and District Road Committees to improve existing sources of water-supply and to open new ones, I have the honour to submit the following report.

2. In Hazaribagh the registers prescribed by the Government Circular Nos. 7 and 8T.M., dated the 15th May 1896, have been opened by the District Road-Cess Committee and the two Municipalities of Hazaribagh and Chatra. The registers opened by the Road-Cess Committee are being tested by the Deputy Commissioner in his cold-weather tours. In the two municipalities mentioned above the sources of water-supply are reported to be sufficient for the requirements of each ward within them. Since the submission of Mr. Marinden's report No. 77R.C., dated the 12th May 1896, a public meeting of zamindars, mukarraridars, thikadars and other influential persons of the district was held at Mr. Herald's invitation, and no fewer than eighty-five of them have promised in writing to increase the available supply of drinking water in their respective zamindaries and *elakas* either by digging new tanks and wells or by deepening and cleansing old ones, and the aggregate sum which they proposed to spend for the purpose amounts to Rs. 35,785. The Deputy Commissioner is now addressing these persons on the subject of taking advances without delay on the terms offered under the rules prescribed in Government notification No. 69, published at pages 26 to 29 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of 13th ultimo.

3. In Lohardaga the District Road-Cess Committee have prepared registers of all sources of water-supply for domestic use in rural villages containing more than 100 houses, and the registers have been forwarded to the District Superintendent of Police for verification and necessary correction. The Committee have further spent Rs. 944 in constructing four pucca wells at Lohardaga, Opa, Lodhma and Jeria, in the compounds of road-side bungalows, and these will be available to the public and to passengers frequenting the roads on the sides of which the bungalows have been constructed. Of the two municipalities in the district, Ranchi and Lohardaga, the former have simply prepared registers of the sources of water-supply existing within it, while the latter, besides preparing such registers, have improved one tank by clearing it of weeds, and have taken steps for clearing another which, though belonging to a private individual, is available to the public for use.

4. In the Palamau district the Road-Cess Committee have not yet been able to prepare the registers prescribed by the Government for want of the necessary particulars which the police were required to furnish. They have, however, undertaken the construction of three road-side wells at Latdag, Kurso and Manatu. Mr. Renny, the present Deputy Commissioner, is taking the necessary steps to give due effect to the Government orders, and expects to show satisfactory progress in the next quarter's report. In the Daltonganj Municipality the general register has been written up and the detailed register is under preparation.

5. In Manbhum the task of compiling the registers for rural villages was made over to the police in conjunction with the District Engineer, but the information collected is, in the opinion of the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Luson, far from complete, though considerable progress is said to have been made in collecting it. Of the three municipalities in the district, Purulia, Rughunathpur and

Jhalda, the registers have been excellently prepared in the case of the two first, but insufficiently in that of the last, which has not yet completed the detailed register in Form No. II. Steps are being taken to have the information brought up to the required standard in the case of the Jhalda Municipality and of all villages of more than 100 houses outside municipal limits.

No special steps appear to have been taken in this district, in consequence of the opening of these registers, to improve existing sources of water-supply or to open new ones. Mr. Lusson writes that he joined the district on return from furlough only two months ago, and his attention had not been drawn to the subject until the 18th ultimo. He promises to do his best now to see that the information tabulated is used to advantage, and that some real work is done to improve the existing sources of water-supply and to provide new ones.

6. In Singhbhum the registers prescribed by the Government have been prepared; but the District Road-Cess Committee, which is unable to maintain the District Roads properly, can ill afford to spend any sum on the improvement of water-supply in rural tracts. In the Government Kolhan Rs. 1,012 have been spent on the improvement of tanks and wells. In the Chaibassa Municipality a sum of Rs. 32 has been spent by the Municipal Commissioners in clearing wells and tanks, and another sum of Rs. 220 has been subscribed by the Thakur of Kharsawan for clearing and improving the Ranibandh, within the same Municipality.

7. It appears to me from the above *précis* that, beyond preparing the prescribed registers, the measures so far taken in the direction of improving the water-supply in the different districts do not as yet hold out much promise of sufficient practical results, except in the district of Hazaribagh, where Mr. Herald has been giving much personal attention to the matter. I am forwarding extracts of his proceedings, noticed in paragraph 2 above, to the other District Officers for their information and guidance.

LIBERALITY OF RAO JOGENDRA NARAYAN ROY.

No. 1001F., dated Calcutta, the 8th February 1897.

From—H. H. RISLEY, Esq., C.I.E., Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Financial Dept.,
To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. ⁹/₁₃₉ Mis., dated the 29th January 1897, I am directed to forward, for your information and for communication to Rao Jogendra Narayan Roy of Lalgola, the enclosed copy of a Notification of to-day's date regarding the establishment of the Rao Mohesh Narayan Roy Serai at Raghunathganj in the Jangipur subdivision of the district of Murshidabad.

2. I am to request that you will be so good as to convey to the donor an expression of His Honour's acknowledgment of his liberality and public spirit. This letter will be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

LIBERALITY OF RAI SETAB CHAND NAHAR, BAHADUR, OF AZIMGANJ.

No. 932Medl., dated Calcutta, the 19th February 1897.

From—H. H. RISLEY, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department,
To—The Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division.

WITH reference to your Memorandum No. 396J., dated the 23rd December 1896, and previous correspondence, relating to the establishment by Rai Setab Chand Nahar, Bahadur, of Azimganj, of a charitable dispensary, within his estate at Satabganj, in the district of Dinajpur, to be maintained from the proceeds, amounting to Rs. 624 per annum, of an endowment of landed property created by him, I am directed to request that the Lieutenant-Governor's thanks may be conveyed to the donor for his liberality and public spirit. Sir Alexander Mackenzie is glad to recognise this evidence of the Zamindar's wish to provide medical aid for his tenants. I am to add that there is no objection to the name of the dispensary being changed to the "Lady Mackenzie Satabganj Charitable Dispensary," as proposed by the donor.

2. This letter will be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE SALT MARKET FOR THE
THIRD QUARTER OF 1896-97.

No. 146B., dated Calcutta, the 13th February 1897.

From—E. H. WALSH, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L.P.,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

I AM directed to submit the following report on the state of the
SALT. salt market for the third quarter of 1896-97,
comprising the months of October, November,
and December 1896.

THE HON'BLE MR. W. H. GRIMLEY.

2. The quantity of salt of every description cleared during the quarter under review, amounted to 24,40,628 maunds, against 26,77,294 maunds in the previous quarter, and 27,75,261 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year; and the net amount of duty levied thereon was Rs. 57,12,378, against Rs. 61,68,873 in the previous quarter, and Rs. 65,18,216 in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. In all cases fractions are omitted.

3. The quantity of locally-made salt removed from the golas in Orissa during the quarter under review, and the quantity which remained in store at the close of the quarter, are shown in Table I below:—

TABLE I.

1	2
	Puri.
	Mds.
Balance at the close of the previous quarter ...	4,25,549
Manufactured and added during the quarter ...	.....
Total ...	4,25,549
Sold during the quarter ...	9,272
Wastage ... ..	.....
Total ...	9,272
Balance at the close of the quarter ...	4,16,277

The total sales of locally-made salt during the quarter under review amounted to 9,272 maunds, against 16,134 maunds in the previous quarter, and 15,248 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Duty was levied during the quarter on the full quantity sold.

4. The subjoined Table II shows in detail the importations into the port of Calcutta and the total clearances of sea-imported salt during the quarter under

review, as compared with the figures of the corresponding quarters of the previous two years:—

TABLE II.

WHENCE IMPORTED.	1894-95.		1895-96.		1896-97.	
	Third quarter.		Third quarter.		Third quarter.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I.—United Kingdom	Mds. 10,85,627	Mds. 15,33,534	Mds. 14,17,586	Mds. 10,01,564	Mds. 9,87,486	Mds. 10,15,811
II.—Hamburg (Germany)	2,50,398	1,88,820	3,30,498	3,20,283	2,06,888	1,07,000
Lübeck	1,86,810	1,03,088	1,71,470	87,312	3,83,050	27,386
Muscot	61,250	3,080	24,202	60,262	1,300	74,261
Hankow	80,270	8,510	1,25,003	35,076	.....	63,788
IV.—Sullit	34,500	2,000	2,000	13,000	1,200	68,237
Rawayah	4,09,422	33,070	3,04,147	1,01,516	2,96,722	4,50,339
Aden	4,75,872	2,42,386	3,17,190	2,08,755	3,57,735	3,14,086
Singapore	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
V.—Madras	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,083	8,083
VI.—Bombay	1,21,365	1,59,056	1,50,013	1,45,213	1,35,234	1,30,595
Total	26,50,541	23,61,178	22,12,914	20,32,900	21,78,489	23,23,908

5. Table III shows the quantity of sea-imported salt remaining in the warehouses at the close of the quarter under review, as compared with the results of the previous four quarters:—

TABLE III.

WHERE STORED.	Third quarter of 1895-96.	Fourth quarter of 1895-96.	First quarter of 1896-97.	Second quarter of 1896-97.	Third quarter of 1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sulkea Government Salt godas	Mds. 20,30,045	Mds. 25,30,946	Mds. 13,30,349	Mds. 17,93,053	Mds. 13,11,558
Kidderpore Dock ditto	6,26,886	6,40,300	1,72,863	1,703	.....
Ditto do. Private godas	2,64,103	3,06,777	1,45,701	14,163	5,606
Chittagong Government Salt godas	.....	60,960	48,953	64,163	30,235
Ditto Private ditto	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,330
Narayanganj (Salt Bonded Warehouse of Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co.)	819	6,946	1,246	5,086	6,774
Khulna (ditto)	2,435	8,653	137	.....	3,036
Malasore (ditto)	3,400	3,006	3,724	.....	10,484
Chandbali (ditto)	9,809	2,400	.....	.....	2,000
Bhairab Bazar (ditto)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	28,75,452	34,60,340	17,11,978	18,63,096	13,63,438

The stock in bond at the close of the quarter was reduced to about one-third of that at the close of the corresponding quarter of the previous year, but there was a marked advance in the shipments of salt for the port of Calcutta, as noted in paragraph 9, being 53,560 tons, against 40,430 tons in the previous quarter and 30,200 tons in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

6. The despatches of salt from Calcutta by water and the three railways passing the several pass-stations into the interior of the country, both east and west of the river Hooghly, as well as the despatches by steamers and flats during the quarter under review and the corresponding quarters of the previous two years, are shown in table IV below:—

TABLE IV.

PERIOD.	BY WATER.					BY RAIL.			BY STEAMERS AND FLATS.	
	Via Balishal.	Via Bankrail.	Via Govanthal.	Via Kidderpore.	Via Ballishal.	Via Balishal.	By the East Indian Rail. way.	By the East. Bengal. and South. Eastern Rail. ways or via Chittor.	Quantity despatched into the interior (entered in 6 Orissa).	Quantity despatched to Orissa.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Third quarter of 1894-95	Mds. 1,58,462	Mds. 1,11,169	Mds. 76,041	Mds. 73,154	Mds. 2,98,474	Mds. 4,442	Mds. 9,00,080	Mds. 3,00,551	Mds. 3,23,303	Mds. 61,740
Ditto of 1895-96	1,72,520	1,18,823	79,396	67,867	5,00,233	26,651	8,00,046	2,35,283	1,70,090	19,039
Ditto of 1896-97	1,16,968	1,11,683	73,505	58,509	3,16,155	740	11,18,975	2,81,231	1,62,751	26,636

7. The quantity of salt despatched by the East Indian Railway to stations beyond Buxar during the quarter under review, amounted to 11,991 maunds 10 seers, as noted in the margin, against 9,742 maunds 30 seers in the previous quarter, and 20,609 maunds 10 seers in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

		Mds. s.
October	...	4,121 20
November	...	1,873 30
December	...	5,996 0
Total	...	11,991 10

8. The quantity of saltpetre removed from the refineries during the quarter on payment of duty, amounted to 6,982 maunds, against 5,315 maunds in the previous quarter and 4,240 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

9. The shipments of Liverpool salt for the port of Calcutta, according to published market reports, were as follows :—

				Tons.
October	...	...	...	14,050
November	...	...	...	12,200
December	...	...	...	27,310
Total	...	...	...	53,560

It is reported that four sailing ships were *en route* for Calcutta at the close of the quarter, with 13,700 tons of salt from Hamburg.

10. Table V shows the average wholesale price per 100 maunds of Liverpool and other descriptions of salt during each fortnight of the quarter under review :—

TABLE V.

DESCRIPTION OF SALT.	Fortnight ending 15th Oct. 1896.	Fortnight ending 31st Oct. 1896.	Fortnight ending 15th Nov. 1896.	Fortnight ending 30th Nov. 1896.	Fortnight ending 15th December 1896.	Fortnight ending 31st December 1896.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Liverpool pansa	103 6 3	131 1 5	124 3 0	110 9 7	107 12 11	115 0 0
Hamburg karkach	...	120 0 0	118 0 0	102 0 0	100 14 0	100 11 2
Assam ditto	33 8 8	41 14 4	48 0 0	38 12 4	37 12 4	38 4 9
Madras ditto	80 0 0	75 14 4	80 0 0	54 1 4	50 9 4	85 11 2
Madras ditto	57 8 0	54 0 0	51 5 4	52 12 0	53 0 0	53 10 8
Block ditto	...	...	...	53 0 0	109 0 0	111 0 0

11. The following table VI shows the quantity of sea-imported salt admitted into bond and cleared from bond and shipboard at Chittagong, Narayanganj, Khulna, Bahasore, Chandbali, and Bhairab Bazar (Mymensingh) during the quarter under review and the corresponding quarter of the previous year :—

TABLE VI.

PORT OR STATION.	Description of salt.	ADMITTED INTO BOND.		CLEARED.	
		Third quarter of 1895-96.	Third quarter of 1896-97.	Third quarter of 1895-96.	Third quarter of 1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.
Chittagong	Liverpool	1,58,096 0 0	...	62,841 35 0	41,350 12 0
Narayanganj	Ditto	...	25,000 0 0	16,833 20 0	26,075 0 0
Khulna	Ditto	8,100 0 0	28,409 0 0	5,810 0 0	26,377 0 0
Bahasore	Ditto	12,450 0 0	11,000 0 0	11,447 0 8	7,066 0 0
Chandbali	Ditto	27,250 0 0	24,430 0 0	23,674 0 0	14,086 0 0
Bhairab Bazar	Ditto	10,909 0 0	24,000 0 0	7,000 0 0	22,000 0 0
Total	...	2,39,746 0 0	1,13,839 0 0	1,26,896 12 8	1,27,768 12

No transactions in sea-imported salt have been reported for the quarter from Cuttack and Puri.

STOCKS OF RICE IN AND AROUND CALCUTTA.

No. 433 Sta's.—The following is published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta during February 1897.

NAMES OF MARKS.	Stock in hand as compiled on—				
	1st week of Feb. 1897.	2nd week of Jan. 1897.	3rd week of Jan. 1897.	4th week of Jan. 1897.	1st week of Feb. 1897.
Baliaghatta	Mds. 2,79,000	Mds. 1,28,000	Mds. 1,50,000	Mds. 1,78,000	Mds. 2,20,000
Ultadanga	57,900	3,700	5,000	5,300	8,400
Chitpur, Golabari, Kumartuly, Hathkhol, and Gulpī Ghat...	5,70,900	1,14,900	1,14,400	1,09,200	1,00,600
Pathuringhatta, Posta, and Jorabagan	2,500	3,300	4,500	4,500	3,600
Tollygunge, Chedla, Kidderpore, and Munshiganj	1,65,800	1,49,000	1,42,500	1,34,100	1,48,500
Minor bazars (1)	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,41,000
Other retail shops (1)	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000
Ramkrishnapur	.....	70,000	67,000	70,900	72,600
Baidyabati, Nawabganj, Bhadres- war, and Chandernagore†	6,425	8,409	6,335	11,975	7,202
Total	15,72,525	9,67,309	9,79,735	10,03,975	10,50,902
On Railway premises on both sides of the river‡	15,795 (on 3rd Jan. 1896).	3,891 (on 2nd Jan. 1897.)	1,370 (on 16th Jan. 1897.)	5,164 (on 23rd Jan. 1897.)	1,16,447 (on 30th Jan. 1897.)
On boats unloaded— By Port Commissioners' returns	49,170 (2nd to 4th Jan. 1896).	41,602 (2nd to 4th Jan. 1897.)	45,363 (on 16th to 18th Jan. 1897.)	65,094 (on 23rd to 25th Jan. 1897.)	68,377 (30th Jan. to 1st Feb. 1897.)
By Canal returns	77,941 (2nd to 4th Jan. 1896).	99,846 (on 9th to 11th Jan. 1897.)	79,515 (on 16th to 18th Jan. 1897.)	1,15,345 (on 23rd to 25th Jan. 1897.)	1,36,091 (30th Jan. to 1st Feb. 1897.)
Grand Total of Stocks	17,15,431	11,20,063	11,05,983	11,89,577	13,71,817
				12,98,906	14,47,873
					14,87,360

* This mart is in the Howrah district, and the figures have been obtained by local enquiry.

† Figures furnished by the Collector of Hooghly.

‡ Ditto by the Railway authorities.

(1) Estimated as a constant quantity.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF CALCUTTA
IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 485 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 23rd February 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Memorandum.

The sea-borne import and export traffic of Calcutta in food-grains during the week ending the 14th February 1896 and 1897 are shown in the following statement:—

		8TH TO 14TH FEBRUARY			
		1896.		1897.	
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Imports.</i>		Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
From Foreign Ports	...	.....	.....	15	20
„ Indian „	...	33,582	45,709	170,503	2,32,074
Total	...	33,582	45,709	170,518	2,32,094
<i>Exports.</i>					
To Foreign Ports	...	245,610	3,34,303	30,139	41,022
„ Indian „	...	78,340	106,629	5,097	6,988
Total	...	323,950	4,40,932	35,236	47,960

Imports.—The different staples comprising the import traffic are shown in the table below, and the figures for the week are compared with those for the corresponding period last year:—

		8TH TO 14TH FEBRUARY			
		1896.		1897.	
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Food-grains.</i>		Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
Rice	...	25,478	34,678	153,870	2,09,434
Paddy	...	7,897	10,749	12,358	16,821
Wheat	...	...	.....	.....	.....
Gram and pulses	...	207	282	4,280	5,825
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	...	.....	.....	10	14
Total	...	33,582	45,709	170,518	2,32,094

As in previous weeks, the chief feature of the import trade of the period under report is the considerable quantity of rice, amounting to 1,40,727 cwts., that was received in Calcutta from Burma. The only ports outside Burma which contributed to the rice trade were Balasore and Chandbali, although the shipments from those places showed a heavy falling off in comparison with that of 1896. The bulk of the imports of gram and pulses was derived from Coconada and Chandbali.

Exports.—In the following statement the total quantity of each kind of food-grains exported by sea during the 2nd week of February 1897 is compared with the figures for 1896:—

1	8TH TO 14TH FEBRUARY			
	1896.		1897.	
	2	3	4	5
	Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
<i>Food-grains.</i>				
Rice	285,200	3,88,189	31,633	43,056
Paddy	594	809	29	39
Wheat	4,024	5,477	113	154
Gram and pulses	24,392	33,200	3,420	4,655
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	9,740	13,257	41	56
Total ...	323,950	4,40,932	35,236	47,960

The export trade in rice with foreign ports fell off from 229,477 cwts. in the corresponding period of last year to 29,462 cwts. during the week under report. The exports by sea in the preceding week were 3,07,464 cwts. With the exception of Ceylon, to which a trifling quantity, namely 1,361 cwts. was shipped against 60,571 cwts. in the preceding year, the only port to which Bengal rice was consigned is Barbadoes in the West Indies, which received 28,072 cwts. against 1,049 cwts. in 1896. To the United Kingdom, Mauritius, Aden, Arabia and Persia, which received largely during the corresponding period of 1896, there were no exports at all.

In the case of the coasting trade, the exports of rice decreased from 55,723 cwts. to 2,171 cwts., those of wheat from 4,024 cwts. to 3 cwts., those of gram and pulses from 16,543 cwts. to 2,912 cwts., and those of miscellaneous food-grains from 2,028 cwts. to 11 cwts. The only items worthy of notice in the statement are an export of 1,697 cwts. of rice and 2,664 cwts. of gram and pulses carried to Rangoon, against 1,516 cwts. and 7,735 cwts., respectively, in the corresponding period last year.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below.

Statement No. I, showing the Imports of Food-grains into Calcutta from Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 14th February 1896 and 1897.

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, bam ley, oats, &c.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>From Indian Ports.</i>		Owts.	Owts.	Cwts.	Owts.	Cwts.	Owts.
Madras	Coconada	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	2,093	.....	2,093
	Calingapatam	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	184	.....	184
Burma	Rangoon	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		{ 1897 ...	133,916	6,601	127	.....	140,544
	Moulmein	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		{ 1897 ...	6,811	.....	.....	.....	6,811
Balasore	Akyab	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		{ 1897 ...	.....	1,600	.....	.....	1,600
	Balasore	{ 1896 ...	3,406	2,458	.....	.....	10,864
		{ 1897 ...	3,877	3,738	.....	.....	7,415
	Chandbali	{ 1896 ...	17,072	5,439	.....	.....	22,718
		{ 1897 ...	9,461	619	207	.....	11,956
Total Indian Ports		{ 1896 ...	25,478	7,897	.....	207	33,582
		{ 1897 ...	163,865	12,358	.....	4,280	170,503
<i>From Foreign Ports.</i>							
Ceylon		{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	10	10
China—Hong-Kong		{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		{ 1897 ...	5	.....	.....	.....	5
Total Foreign Ports		{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		{ 1897 ...	5	.....	.....	10	15
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS		{ 1896 ...	25,478	7,897	.....	207	33,582
		{ 1897 ...	163,870	12,368	.....	4,290	170,518

Statement No. II, showing the Exports of Food-grains from Calcutta to Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 14th February 1896 and 1897.

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>To Foreign Ports.</i>		Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
United Kingdom	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	41,778	.....	.....	147	.....	41,925
Germany—Bremen	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	2,002	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,002
Mauritius	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	23,397	.....	.....	6,051	7,712	37,160
West Indies—Barbadoes	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	1,049	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,049
Aden	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	28,072	.....	.....	.....	.....	28,072
Arabia—Maskat	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	9,071	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,071
Other States	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	14,679	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,679
Ceylon	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	45,242	.....	.....	.....	.....	45,242
China—Hongkong	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	60,571	572	.....	1,077	.....	62,220
Persia	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	1,361	29	.....	.....	.....	1,390
Straits Settlements	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	15	.....	15
Turkey in Asia—Trebizond	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	31,186	.....	.....	.....	.....	31,186
	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	186	.....	.....	559	.....	695
	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	14	.....	110	508	30	662
	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	366	.....	.....	.....	.....	366
Total Foreign Ports	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	229,477	572	.....	7,849	7,712	245,610
	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	29,462	29	110	508	30	30,139

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>To Indian Ports.</i>		Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Bombay	... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	39,815	22	...	2,521	519	42,407
	Madras ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	15	...	...	5,299	1,467	6,781
	Badagara ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,492	...	...	...	...	3,492
	Bomlipatam ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	7	7
	Calicut ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	5,887	...	...	...	...	5,887
	Cannanore ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	499	...	...	...	...	499
Madras	Cochin ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	997	...	...	146	...	1,143
	Coconada ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	4	4
	Negapatam ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	73	...	73
	Tellicherry ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,995	...	...	...	...	3,995
	Visagapatam ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	Rangoon ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	1,516	...	3,940	7,785	5	13,196
	Akyab ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	3	...	...	139	7	149
		46	...	...	112	...	158
Burma	Kyaukpyn ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	3	...	3
	Moulmein ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	2	...	...	132	...	134
	Sandoway ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	10	...	10
Chittagong	... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	105	...	105
		...	...	...	43	...	43
Balasore	Balasore ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	100	...	100
		...	...	...	59	...	59
	Ohandbali ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	2	...	84	292	...	378
		...	...	3	21	...	24
Cuttack	... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		3	...	...	...	...	3
Insanore-Allepey	... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		366	...	...	...	...	366
Suratwar-Jamnagore	... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		59	...	...	...	...	59
Total Indian Ports ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...		55,723	22	4,024	16,543	2,028	78,340
		2,171	...	3	2,913	11	5,097
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS. ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...		285,200	594	4,024	24,392	9,740	323,960
		31,633	29	113	3,420	41	35,236

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF THE MINOR PORTS IN BENGAL IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 484 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 23rd February 1897.

MEMORANDUM.

THE comparative statements below give statistics of the import and export trade of the minor ports of Chittagong, Narayanganj, Balasore (including both Balasore and Handbali), Cuttack and Puri during the ten days ending 31st January 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896 :—

IMPORTS.					
Ports.			From Foreign ports.	From Indian ports.	Total.
			Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts. Mds.
Chittagong ...	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	430	430 585
	{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	4,762	4,762 6,482
Narayanganj ...	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	147	147 200
Balasore ports...	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	219	219 298
	{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	414	414 563
Cuttack ...	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puri ...	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	{ 1896 ...	.....	.....	649	649 983
	{ 1897 ...	.....	.....	5,323	5,323 7,245

EXPORTS.						
Ports.			To Foreign ports.	To Indian ports.	Total.	
			Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Mds.
Chittagong ...	{ 1896	...	9,021	67,447	76,468	1,04,081
	{ 1897	...	1,620	73	1,693	2,304
Narayanganj ...	{ 1896	...	.....	132	132	180
	{ 1897	...	.....	826	826	1,124
Balasore ports...	{ 1896	...	27,974	82,946	110,920	1,56,974
	{ 1897	...	.....	29,934	29,994	40,825
Cuttack ...	{ 1896	...	.....	26,125	26,125	35,559
	{ 1897	...	8,299	.....	8,299	11,296
Puri ...	{ 1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897	...	3,161	.....	3,161	4,303
Total ...	{ 1896	...	36,995	176,650	213,645	2,90,794
	{ 1897	...	13,080	30,893	43,973	59,852

The import trade of Chittagong showed a rise of 4,332 cwts., which was mainly due to the supply of rice and paddy from Burma Ports.

Imports.

- 147 cwts. and 195 cwts. respectively.

The falling off in the export trade of Chittagong is chiefly attributable to the cessation of exports of rice and paddy to both Foreign and Indian Ports, which together received, in the corresponding period of

Exports.

1896, 74,775 cwts. in excess of the shipments during the period now under review. Narayanganj showed a rise of 694 cwts. owing to larger despatches of rice and gram and pulse to Chittagong. The decline of 80,926 cwts. in the case of Balasore was due to smaller shipments of rice, paddy and gram and pulse to both Foreign and Indian Ports. The falling off in the Cuttack trade amounted to 17,826 cwts., no rice was sent thence to Indian Ports, which received 25,675 cwts. in the corresponding period of last year, while the trade of Puri was confined to Colombo, which was supplied with 3,161 cwts. of rice against nil in 1896.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards foreign and Indian ports, are given below:—

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Chittagong from each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st January 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

Ports from which imported.		Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jawar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
		1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>		Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
<i>Indian Ports.</i>													
Burma	Main dow				3,656								3,656
Calcutta	Rangoon		1,802							81	5	81	1,883
						15		331	40		5	346	58
Total			1,802		2,506	15		331	40	81	5	430	4,703

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Chittagong to each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st January 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.				Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		TOTAL.		
				1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	
1				2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Foreign Ports.				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	
Madras				1,465	1,650	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	47	30	1,512	1,690
Trinidad				7,509	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,509	.....
Total				8,974	1,650	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	47	30	9,031	1,690
Indian Ports.				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	
Madras				41,947	.....	18,644	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	57,611	.....
Calcutta				4,095	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,095	.....
Bombay				5,141	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,141	.....
Total				51,803	.....	18,644	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73	.....	.....	67,447	73
GRAND TOTAL				60,777	1,650	18,644	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73	47	30	76,468	1,693

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Narayanganj from each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st January 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

[illegible]

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Narayanganj to each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st January 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Foreign Ports.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Indian Ports.												
Chittagong		488					173	238			132	836
Total		488					173	238			132	836

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Balasore in the Cuttack District to each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st January 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Foreign Ports.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Indian Ports.												
Calcutta					50	104	100	3		308	219	414
Total					50	104	100	3		308	219	414

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Balasore to each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st January 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Foreign Ports.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Mauritius	27,974										27,974	
Indian Ports.												
Calicut	14,114										14,114	
Cochin	5,480		420								5,900	
Cannanore	1,494										1,494	
Bhadagary	1,057										1,057	
Telicherry	1,008										1,008	
Bombay	2,243										2,243	
Calcutta	37,694	22,089	11,174	7,067			7,332	355		493	60,200	29,994
Total	63,000	22,089	11,624	7,067			7,332	355		493	82,940	29,994
GRAND TOTAL	91,066	22,089	11,624	7,067			7,332	355		493	1,10,920	29,994

MEMORANDUM ON THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS TO AND FROM CALCUTTA DURING NOVEMBER 1896.

No. 486 Statistics.—THE following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 23rd February 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal

The total quantity of food-grains imported into and exported from Calcutta during the month of November 1896, as compared with the corresponding month of the previous year, is shown below:—

Specification of routes.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1895. Mds.	1896. Mds.	1895. Mds.	1896. Mds.
By internal routes, i.e., by rail, road, river (country boat and steamer) and canals ...	13,97,004	11,83,043	1,72,798	5,07,255
By sea (in both foreign and coasting vessels) ...	1,02,822	3,09,165	9,80,684	5,24,890
Total ...	14,99,826	14,92,213	11,53,482	10,31,646

There was very little fluctuation in the total import trade, though in the trade carried by internal routes there was a decrease of 15·3 per cent. as compared with November 1895. The falling off in the internal trade was principally in rice and wheat, and this decline is counterbalanced by increased importation of rice and gram and pulses by sea. In the total export trade the decline was 10·5 per cent., while the quantity exported by internal routes showed the marked increase of 193·5 per cent. In the exports by sea there was a decrease of 46·5 per cent.

Imports.—The table below shows the total trade in each kind of food-grains imported during the month by all routes:—

				November 1895.	November 1896.
				Mds.	Mds.
Rice	...	...	...	7,93,273	7,93,392
Paddy	...	...	...	59,760	1,55,103
Wheat	...	...	...	2,34,580	1,00,685
Gram and pulses	...	...	...	3,66,981	3,83,364
All other kinds of food-grains	...	...	...	45,282	59,669
Total	...	...	...	14,99,826	14,92,213

Of these imports, 13,97,004 maunds were received by internal routes during November 1895, and 11,83,048 maunds during same month in 1896, the sea-borne imports during those two months being 1,02,822 maunds and 3,09,165 maunds respectively. The increase in the paddy trade was due to larger imports, principally from Midnapore (67,678 maunds against 12,650 maunds) and from Burdwan (29,298 maunds against 4,309). The falling off in the inland trade was due to short despatches of rice mainly from Backergunge, (16,434 maunds against 2,31,440 maunds), and also to short consignments of wheat from the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, which exported only 12,840 maunds, against 1,54,241 maunds in November 1895.

Exports.—The export trade in each staple of food-grains is shown in the following table:—

				November 1895.	November 1896.
				Mds.	Mds.
Rice	...	...	...	8,28,025	6,25,112
Paddy	...	...	...	35,410	1,10,421
Wheat	...	...	...	15,772	15,969
Gram and pulses	...	...	...	2,53,519	2,36,776
All other kinds of food-grains	...	...	...	20,756	43,367
Total	...	...	...	11,53,482	10,31,645

There was a decline of 10·5 per cent. in the total exports owing chiefly to smaller exports by sea, which aggregated only 5,24,390 maunds against 9,80,684 maunds, while there was a marked increase in the inland export trade of 3,34,457 maunds, and this increase was general in all grains, and was not limited to any part of the Lower Provinces of Bengal. The despatches to Nadia were 44,554 maunds against 9,404 maunds, and to Jessore 22,228 maunds against 1,177 maunds. The exportation to Assam was 1,20,705 maunds against 36,355 maunds, and to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh 1,07,641 maunds against only 25 maunds during the month of November 1895.

Statement I showing the several routes followed by the trade in food-grains imported into and exported from Calcutta during the month of November 1895 and 1896.

NAME OF ARTICLE.	By rail.		By country boat.		By inland steamers.		By road.		By sea.		Total.	
	Import.	Export.	Import.	Export.	Import.	Export.	Import.	Export.	Import.	Export.	Import.	Export.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Wheat ... { 1895 ...	1,12,040	3,713	5,28,450	20,327	18,972	6,830	65,161	13,186	67,739	7,74,063	7,83,273	8,23,025
... { 1896 ...	77,840	86,256	4,52,204	28,524	49,126	80,946	48,265	17,297	1,67,957	4,02,089	7,93,359	6,25,112
Ruddy ... { 1895 ...	2,264	1,374	23,810	17,340	1,705	...	8,606	14,981	13,373	1,745	59,780	85,410
... { 1896 ...	17,735	40,923	93,328	53,420	8,970	20	10,833	17,023	24,547	30	1,53,103	1,10,431
Wheat ... { 1895 ...	2,07,373	100	22,609	127	...	337	...	3,760	4,506	12,412	2,34,680	16,773
... { 1896 ...	64,391	4,814	11,768	1,484	114	386	335	7,285	24,057	2,600	1,00,085	15,909
Gram and pulses ... { 1895 ...	2,46,530	9,523	1,01,583	22,513	1,709	24,768	...	23,176	17,107	1,73,740	3,68,091	2,63,519
... { 1896 ...	1,69,286	75,339	1,36,980	16,133	2,417	14,516	1,695	23,991	72,086	1,06,708	3,83,844	2,36,776
Other food-grains ... { 1895 ...	40,343	1,911	4,837	93	...	20	...	...	102	16,718	45,283	20,786
... { 1896 ...	36,041	27,972	1,867	34	1,543	2,338	...	...	20,218	12,973	50,689	43,367
... { 1895 ...	6,09,459	16,441	6,91,396	70,354	22,896	31,044	78,789	54,039	1,02,823	9,80,684	14,99,830	11,63,423
... { 1896 ...	3,64,285	2,34,804	6,04,047	1,06,694	63,770	98,256	58,948	65,601	2,06,165	5,24,390	14,92,213	10,31,445

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains.		Grand Total.	
	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Shahabad ... { Imports from	...	...	...	...	...	5,667	10,331	3,430	370	...	10,001	9,008
Exports to	...	1,448	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	2	1,467
Beran ... { Imports from	...	1,671	...	...	...	...	1,002	280	404	750	1,406	1,040
Exports to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,671
Champaran ... { Imports from	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,418	...	...	376	1,418	276
Exports to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...
Musafirpur ... { Imports from	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,963	6	1,070	1,130	3,040	1,130
Exports to	4	1,717	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1,717
Darbhanga ... { Imports from	...	...	...	...	1,285	...	5,747	4,100	460	770	7,540	4,870
Exports to	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ... { Imports from	183	...	...	...	1,970	6,710	48,211	10,050	3,544	6,090	68,908	32,460
Exports to	10	8,029	...	1,040	...	...	...	24	3	...	13	9,103
Monghyr ... { Imports from	...	3	...	...	9,410	7,014	31,720	6,000	3,247	9,204	34,477	19,890
Exports to	20	21	...	...	...	6	...	73	...	...	20	98
Rhagapur ... { Imports from	...	4	...	...	17,200	8,703	22,183	2,205	12,406	4,630	61,978	16,561
Exports to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Purnea ... { Imports from	578	...	...	...	382	...	7,224	731	...	...	8,184	731
Exports to	...	212	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	212
Maida ... { Imports from	804	283	...	...	1,766	1,446	3,451	600	1,254	...	8,275	2,206
Exports to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Santal Parganas ... { Imports from	24	6	...	...	9,403	9,245	23,892	2,700	1,125	7,102	34,434	19,173
Exports to	...	451	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	3	453
Total ... { Imports from	1,408	204	...	...	32,360	26,408	78,460	12,898	18,232	19,006	1,37,344	58,003
Exports to	20	684	...	...	...	4	...	79	2	...	23	707
Outlook ... { Imports from	1,340	900	1,702	1,234	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,448	1,234
Exports to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Balesore ... { Imports from	462	1,807	...	5,215	...	...	640	750	...	...	1,102	7,272
Exports to	108	640	...	...	...	...	74	380	...	...	180	1,080
Total ... { Imports from	1,802	1,907	1,702	6,549	...	...	610	750	...	...	4,144	9,206
Exports to	108	680	...	...	...	...	74	380	...	...	180	1,080
Hazaribagh ... { Imports from	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...
Exports to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Manbhum ... { Imports from	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Exports to	...	302	...	...	...	...	...	481	...	...	...	873
Singbhum ... { Imports from	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Exports to	...	205	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	205
Total ... { Imports from	...	205	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	205
Exports to	...	308	16	...	...	...	...	483	...	18	16	809
Grand total of the Provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. { Imports from	7,25,067	6,23,640	66,267	1,20,220	54,845	47,630	2,73,095	3,03,984	62,104	31,707	11,43,103	11,36,535
Exports to	46,300	91,983	23,063	1,04,302	2,074	9,084	50,913	60,763	1,091	3,885	1,36,713	1,50,000
Assam ... { Imports from	440	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	...	...	440	90
Exports to	6,956	1,04,280	...	315	290	231	25,960	15,672	147	117	26,353	1,20,705
North-Western Provinces and Oudh ... { Imports from	25	5	...	...	1,54,241	12,840	38,786	2,618	355	122	1,63,407	15,806
Exports to	26	18,748	...	8,774	...	4,164	...	54,120	...	34,861	25	1,07,641
Punjab ... { Imports from	...	5	...	...	7,008	938	26,638	3	2,717	7,610	66,653	8,555
Exports to	9	7,806	...	...	...	...	...	9,433	...	1,892	9	10,223
Central Provinces ... { Imports from	6	1,776	...	...	13,908	15,211	468	4,668	...	...	14,431	21,655
Exports to	603	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajputana and Central India ... { Imports from	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...
Exports to	4	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Berar ... { Imports from	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	606	...	...	67	606
Exports to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay ... { Imports from	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Exports to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total of trade by internal routes { Imports	7,25,041	6,23,625	66,257	1,20,206	54,807	47,609	2,73,024	3,11,378	62,180	30,461	11,43,004	11,36,446
Exports	53,966	91,983	23,063	1,10,391	2,090	13,409	50,779	1,20,978	2,086	38,864	1,37,798	1,50,000
Total of trade by sea { Imports	67,783	1,67,957	13,373	24,047	4,506	24,067	17,107	72,086	102	20,710	1,08,823	2,00,166
Exports	7,74,060	4,02,089	1,745	30	12,412	2,500	1,73,740	1,00,798	18,718	14,973	2,80,084	5,24,326
GRAND TOTAL OF TRADE BY ALL ROUTES { Imports	7,92,824	7,91,582	80,000	1,44,243	59,313	71,676	2,90,131	3,83,164	62,282	50,000	14,51,827	14,36,612
Exports	6,28,025	4,94,112	24,810	1,10,421	15,778	15,909	2,23,519	2,23,776	20,764	63,837	11,83,402	10,31,006

EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY RAIL FROM HOWRAH.

No. 487-Statistics.—The following statement, showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported by rail from Howrah during the period 1st January to 13th February 1897 inclusive, is published for general information.

It is observed that the whole quantity of food-grains carried from Howrah to stations in these provinces was only 1,85,690 maunds; whereas more than four times that quantity—5,96,809 maunds—were exported to the North-West Provinces and Oudh. The exports to other provinces aggregated 1,98,376 maunds.

It has not as yet been found possible to compile returns of the shipments of food-grains from Kidderpore, Chitpore, and the Port Trust Railway; but it is expected that such returns will shortly be ready for publication.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 23rd February 1897.

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Howrah by rail from 1st January to 13th February 1897.

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	1st to 9th January 1897.	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 23rd January 1897.	Week ending 30th January 1897.	Total.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BENGAL.							
<i>Hooghly.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Tarakeswar ...	219	24	...	...	243	...	...
Chandernagore ...	6	...	...	...	6	...	...
Dasghora ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
Pandua ...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...
Bainchi ...	17	...	...	...	17	...	...
Total ...	248	24	...	...	272	...	...
<i>Burdwan.</i>							
Memari ...	58	...	...	...	58	...	...
Rasulpur ...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...
Burdwan ...	85	10	...	...	95	...	...
Raiganj ...	553	538	200	109	1,400	48	...
Sitarampur ...	10	...	...	...	10	223	143
Ghuskara ...	2	...	...	101	103	...	...
Total ...	712	548	200	270	1,780	271	143
<i>Birbhum.</i>							
Bolpur ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
Sainthia ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Total ...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...
<i>Nadia.</i>							
Choochdanga ...	...	...	...	353	353	...	...
Kushtea ...	...	...	...	348	343	...	...
Allandanga ...	...	...	...	...	...	888	387
Total ...	...	...	...	696	696	888	387
<i>Murshidabad.</i>							
Azimganj ...	20	...	...	137	157	154	...
Total ...	20	...	...	137	157	154	...
<i>Rangpur.</i>							
Lalmonir Hat ...	...	...	...	55	55	...	...
Cooch Behar ...	...	...	...	755	755	...	...
<i>Jalpaiguri.</i>							
Jalpaiguri ...	...	392	...	...	392	...	...
Ramabai ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	375
Total ...	...	392	...	...	392	...	375
<i>Darjeeling.</i>							
Darjeeling ...	...	...	...	382	382	340	...
Total ...	...	...	...	382	382	340	...
TOTAL OF BENGAL	983	984	200	2,295	4,442	1,659	904

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEE.	1st to 9th January 1897.	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 23rd January 1897.	Week ending 30th January 1897.	Total.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
CHOTA NAGPUR.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Hazaribagh.</i>							
Giridih ...	...	...	374	376	750	...	376
Total ...	...	...	374	376	750	...	376
<i>Manbhum.</i>							
Parulia ...	22	...	...	...	22	...	...
Bulrampur ...	5	...	...	...	5	...	...
Barakar ...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...
Pradhan Khanta ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Total ...	31	...	...	...	31	...	...
<i>Singbhum.</i>							
Ohakradharpur ...	31	...	...	...	31	...	...
Total ...	31	...	...	...	31	...	...
TOTAL OF CHOTA NAGPUR ...	62	...	374	376	812	...	376
BIHAR.							
<i>Sonthal Parganas.</i>							
Sahibganj ...	...	380	...	...	380	372	...
Baidyanath ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
Total ...	2	380	...	...	382	372	...
<i>Bhagalpur.</i>							
Bhagalpur ...	385	...	379	...	764	...	...
Total ...	385	...	379	...	764	...	...
<i>Monghyr.</i>							
Lakhisarai ...	388	...	...	...	388	...	...
Monghyr ...	382	...	...	...	382	...	...
Garhara ...	1,142	372	377	377	2,268	377	...
Tegra ...	371	375	...	...	746	...	...
Begamsarai ...	...	371	...	...	371	...	...
Total ...	2,288	1,118	377	377	4,155	377	...
<i>Patna.</i>							
Barh ...	1,172	376	...	...	1,548	...	...
Patna City ...	...	378	...	...	378	1,129	...
Patna Ghat ...	2,635	5,086	744	3,388	12,408	1,888	2,258
Bankipore ...	855	...	1,188	...	1,491	...	...
Digha Ghat ...	1,625	372	...	379	2,376	757	...
Sadispur ...	...	375	...	...	375	...	...
Bihta ...	1,211	...	...	...	1,211	...	126
Total ...	6,998	7,187	1,880	3,767	19,782	3,774	2,384
<i>Gaya.</i>							
Gaya ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	370

STATION TO WHICH CON- SIGN ED.	1st to 9th January 1897.	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 23rd January 1897.	Week ending 30th January 1897.	Total.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BIHAR—concl'd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Shahabad.</i>							
Arrah ...	888	872	...	874	1,129	...	...
Buxar ...	...	758	...	755	1,518	1,541	...
Dumraon ...	...	...	...	878	878	872	...
Total ...	888	1,180	...	1,507	8,020	1,913	...
<i>Darbhanga.</i>							
Samastipur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,893
Dalsingarai ...	874	...	...	...	874	...	...
Darbhanga ...	1,580	6,280	...	...	8,169	...	...
Kamtaul ...	...	1,104	...	...	1,104	...	...
Total ...	2,254	7,308	...	...	9,647	...	2,993
<i>Muzaffarpur.</i>							
Kanti ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	748
Matipur ...	...	...	...	1,022	1,022	...	...
Dholi ...	...	...	...	1,115	1,115	...	404
Muzaffarpur ...	1,130	3,810	1,127	758	6,843	883	1,147
Bhagwanpur ...	22	...	...	...	22	...	...
Sitamarhi ...	382	...	...	...	882	...	...
Hajipur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	377
Total ...	1,548	8,810	1,127	2,895	9,384	883	2,676
<i>Champan.</i>							
Masi ...	...	...	...	1,018	1,018	...	...
Segowli ...	...	...	...	1,410	1,410	...	...
Jindara ...	...	2,978	2,378	1,379	6,735	...	1,929
Bettiah ...	4,800	452	385	...	5,727	...	885
Para ...	...	...	...	507	507	...	...
Motihari ...	...	...	...	...	...	833	...
Total ...	4,800	8,430	2,768	4,314	15,397	883	2,314
<i>Saran.</i>							
Ekma ...	...	...	...	...	...	875	...
Chapra ...	758	436	1,188	1,780	4,112	1,505	379
Goldenganj ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
Daronda ...	...	372	...	...	372	...	...
Savan ...	1,522	1,071	6,085	7,731	16,409	5,747	5,166
Revelganj ...	8,911	2,219	1,568	8,056	10,784	1,155	1,121
Total ...	6,193	4,128	8,791	12,567	31,679	8,782	6,666
TOTAL OF BIHAR ...	24,931	28,535	15,317	25,427	94,210	16,184	16,803
TOTAL OF PROVINCES UNDER THE LIEUTENANT-GOVER- NOR OF BENGAL.	25,970	29,499	15,891	28,098	99,464	18,143	18,083
NORTH-WESTERN PRO- VINCES AND OUDH.							
<i>Ghasipur District.</i>							
Dildarnagar ...	...	...	...	1,868	1,868	747	750
Guhmer ...	...	...	...	805	365	...	...
Tari Ghat ...	1,802	...	8,460	...	5,352	...	2,262
Total ...	1,802	...	8,460	2,233	7,585	747	3,012

STATION TO WHICH CON-SIGNED.	1st to 9th January 1897.	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 23rd January 1897.	Week ending 30th January 1897.	Total.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Benares District.</i>							
Zamania ...	371	...	747	751	1,800	876	...
Sakaldiha ...	376	...	...	1,897	2,273	893	...
Mogulsarai ...	...	...	370	...	379	...	...
Benares Cantonment ...	8,016	10,413	7,309	6,073	26,811	5,401	882
Total ...	8,763	10,413	8,435	8,721	31,332	6,100	883
<i>Gorakhpur District.</i>							
Chowrichowra ...	...	...	...	386	1,510	1,127	...
Tahsil Deoria ...	1,124	...	...	1,131	2,304	375	...
Gorakhpur ...	392	384	397	...	1,142	1,142	...
Sahjanwa ...	881	...	392	...	778	1,148	877
Total ...	1,897	394	789	1,517	4,587	3,790	877
<i>Basti District.</i>							
Basti ...	420	...	375	1,138	1,933	751	374
Uska Bazar ...	...	390	...	753	1,146	...	...
Total ...	420	390	375	1,894	3,079	751	374
<i>Gonda District.</i>							
Gonda ...	...	...	381	1,104	1,485	384	374
Other places ...	...	...	...	1,153	1,153	3,374	1,129
Total ...	...	...	381	2,257	2,638	3,758	1,503
<i>Mirzapur District.</i>							
Ahaura Road ...	...	392	753	380	1,505	1,891	749
Chunar ...	...	376	...	447	823	...	...
Mirzapur ...	3,736	1,934	9,102	7,603	22,465	3,033	1,172
Gainpura ...	883	...	...	...	383	...	...
Total ...	4,119	2,702	9,945	8,410	25,176	4,924	1,921
<i>Allahabad District.</i>							
Manwari ...	...	...	...	378	378	377	...
Jasra ...	...	...	...	376	376	750	...
Mina Road ...	2,293	4,914	3,850	4,090	15,747	4,186	...
Nahwai ...	...	...	1,138	381	1,519	...	...
Allahabad ...	6,759	15,932	11,215	14,777	48,683	11,365	1,374
Bharwari ...	3,404	1,581	...	2,774	7,819	375	760
Sirathu ...	376	751	1,137	2,287	4,551	1,125	...
Sbiurajpur ...	...	379	...	384	763	...	...
Other places ...	...	...	...	376	376	...	...
Total ...	12,892	23,557	17,340	25,423	80,212	18,178	2,634
<i>Futtehpur District.</i>							
Bindki ...	3,437	4,837	1,514	4,590	14,387	1,962	4,941

STATION TO WHICH CON- SIGNED.	1st to 9th January 1897.	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 23rd January 1897.	Week ending 30th January 1897.	Total.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NORTH-WESTERN PRO- VINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Cawnpore District.</i>							
Cawnpore City ...	10,286	29,055	14,256	83,474	93,071	18,405	13,444
<i>Etawah District.</i>							
Phaphund ...	...	1,128	881	1,184	2,643	759	374
Bharthua ...	388	...	...	...	388	...	...
Etawah ...	5,774	7,909	4,169	1,165	19,017	8,826	2,856
Jaswantnagore ...	874	1,140	875	1,125	3,014	1,156	...
Total ...	6,536	10,177	4,925	8,424	25,062	5,741	3,230
<i>Farukhabad District.</i>							
Farukhabad ...	...	...	...	...	...	873	...
Kansuj ...	...	881	...	...	881	...	...
Total ...	...	881	...	...	881	873	...
<i>Mainpuri District.</i>							
Kaurara ...	756	1,893	750	388	3,782	1,157	...
Sakhoabad ...	786	871	...	810	1,966	381	379
Total ...	1,541	2,264	750	1,198	5,748	1,538	379
<i>Agra District.</i>							
Firozabad ...	3,415	5,055	1,125	2,420	12,015	762	762
Agra ...	3,857	4,577	4,152	7,992	20,578	2,272	748
Total ...	7,272	9,632	5,277	10,412	32,593	3,034	1,510
<i>Bitapur District.</i>							
Bitapur ...	...	...	...	379	379	...	...
<i>Muttra District.</i>							
Muttra ...	401	...	1,552	378	2,331	392	377
<i>Alighur District.</i>							
Bikandra Rao ...	...	753	...	...	753	...	...
Hattaras ...	5,751	1,490	4,586	9,840	21,667	2,277	...
Alighur ...	1,183	753	757	3,709	6,414	1,436	...
Total ...	6,884	2,008	5,343	13,609	28,834	3,713	...
<i>Bulandshahr District.</i>							
Khurja ...	...	1,875	...	3,433	5,308	377	...
Dibai ...	384	...	372	...	756	...	...
Total ...	384	1,875	372	3,433	6,064	377	...

STATION TO WHICH CON- SIGNED.	1st to 9th January 1897.	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 23rd January 1897.	Week ending 30th January 1897.	Total.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NORTH-WESTERN PRO- VINCES AND OUDH —contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Meerut District.</i>							
Ghaziabad ... ..	...	375	...	191	566	...	384
Meerut	395	2,302	1,125	3,039	6,851	1,126	1,131
Total	395	2,677	1,125	3,230	7,417	1,126	1,515
<i>Banda District.</i>							
Banda ... ..	...	818	...	374	1,187	...	1,891
Bargarh ... ..	...	...	367	375	742	388	1,119
Manikpur ... ..	...	...	384	...	384	375	374
Kurwi	392	373	...	380	1,145	425	1,533
Total	392	1,196	751	1,129	3,458	1,188	4,918
<i>Moradabad District.</i>							
Moradabad ... ..	...	...	...	374	792	377	391
Chundawai	408	...	...	...	...	377	...
Total	408	...	...	374	782	754	391
<i>Asimgarh District.</i>							
Shahganj	1,522	3,412	1,982	742	7,558	754	381
<i>Bareilly District.</i>							
Aonla	1,130	...	...	380	1,510	805	388
Bareilly	1,200	375	382	754	2,711	1,129	4,900
Total	2,330	375	382	1,134	4,221	1,934	5,288
<i>Jaunpur District.</i>							
Jaunpur	2,342	4,246	2,628	5,280	14,496	5,250	...
<i>Shajehanpur District.</i>							
Shajehanpur	1,135	1,125	371	1,549	4,180	718	404
Tilhar	1,510	774	767	2,010	5,061	765	419
Aujhoo	1,123	1,161	...	400	2,084	375	...
Total	3,768	3,060	1,138	3,959	11,925	1,858	823
<i>Eta District.</i>							
Kashganj	376	...	...	378	754	...	...
<i>Lucknow District.</i>							
Lucknow	3,852	4,610	1,911	6,826	17,199	3,781	1,159
Alamnagar	1,937	3,408	383	2,248	7,976	2,007	...
Kakori ... ..	...	1,115	...	376	1,491	396	...
Malihabad	554	...	...	...	754	...	...
Total	6,543	9,133	2,294	9,450	27,420	6,874	1,159

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEE.	1st to 9th January 1897.	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 23rd January 1897.	Week ending 30th January 1897.	Total.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— conold.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Fyzabad District.</i>							
Radhauli ... ..	...	...	...	1,188	1,188	875	1,528
Fyzabad	1,114	1,899	1,545	4,588	9,146	4,950	1,916
Ajodhya ... ..	...	...	762	...	762	875	...
Gosainganj ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	405	...
Total	1,114	1,899	2,307	5,721	11,041	6,105	8,444
<i>Sultanpur District.</i>							
Akbarpur ... ..	...	878	...	772	1,150	748	...
<i>Bara Banki District.</i>							
Daryabad ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	878
Bara Banki	765	757	...	1,898	3,415	395	...
Safdarganj	2,766	2,269	746	3,014	8,795	1,891	2,049
Total	3,531	3,026	746	4,907	12,210	2,286	2,427
<i>Hardoi District.</i>							
Balawan ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	376	...
Hardoi	1,495	2,654	822	1,133	6,104	1,966	876
Baghauli	1,131	1,964	750	1,648	5,493	1,132	...
Sandila	388	...	372	388	1,138	370	...
Total	3,009	4,618	1,944	3,164	12,735	3,844	376
<i>Bijnor District.</i>							
Bijnor ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1,124	...
<i>Hamirpur District.</i>							
Mahoba ... ..	...	399	...	...	399	...	...
Other places	3,859	6,834	3,406	...	14,099	...	...
TOTAL OF NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	76,616	1,16,597	78,475	1,62,596	4,34,284	1,07,729	54,786
PANJAB.							
<i>Delhi District.</i>							
Delhi	6,502	9,484	10,496	13,835	39,817	10,989	4,892
<i>Jullundur District.</i>							
Jullundur City	3	...	...	...	3	...	...
<i>Umballa District.</i>							
Umballa City	402	...	...	...	402	...	438

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	1st to 9th January 1897.	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 23rd January 1897.	Week ending 30th January 1897.	Total.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PANJAB—concl'd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Gurgaon District.</i>						876	...
Gurgaon ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,556	2,660
Rewari ...	2,386	3,098	4,248	8,118	12,795	1,932	2,660
Total ...	2,386	3,098	4,248	8,118	12,795	3,008	3,394
Other places ...	2,279	3,475	2,275	4,158	12,187	17,053	11,384
TOTAL OF THE PANJAB ...	11,522	16,057	17,019	20,606	65,204	481	883
Central Provinces ...	...	...	...	1,145	1,145	...	...
RAJPUTANA AND CEN- TRAL INDIA.							376
Ajmere ...	...	...	...	...	...	878	1,125
Sutna ...	758	1,587	...	751	3,096	769	379
Mhow ...	147	...	...	...	147	379	881
Ulwar ...	...	...	392	...	392	...	...
Indore ...	...	...	...	750	750	...	...
Jeypore ...	...	...	...	378	378	...	377
Bawal ...	...	...	...	378	378	...	388
Harphulpur ...	...	...	...	383	383	2,322	...
Other places ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	905	1,587	392	2,640	5,524	3,818	3,026
Hyderabad ...	...	...	...	378	378	778	...
BERAR.							
Malkapur ...	26	...	...	...	26	...	...
Khamgaon ...	66	...	...	...	66	...	...
Akola ...	53	...	...	...	53	...	...
Amraoti ...	66	...	...	...	66	...	...
Total ...	211	...	...	...	211	...	...
Unspecified places ...	506	2,522	1,076	11,216	15,320	9,883	4,918
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,36,423	1,89,573	1,27,695	2,26,679	6,80,870	1,57,915	92,590
ABSTRACT.							
Total of Bengal ...	983	964	200	2,295	4,442	1,659	904
" " Bihar ...	24,931	28,535	15,317	25,427	94,210	16,484	16,808
" " Chota Nagpur ...	62	...	374	376	812	...	376
" " the North-Western Provinces and Oudh ...	97,303	1,39,908	93,317	1,62,596	4,93,124	1,07,729	54,796
" " the Panjab ...	11,522	16,057	17,019	20,606	65,204	17,053	11,384
" " Rajputana and Cen- tral India ...	905	1,587	392	2,640	5,524	3,848	8,026
" " Central Provinces ...	...	...	...	1,145	1,145	481	888
" " Hyderabad ...	...	...	...	378	378	778	...
" " Berar ...	211	...	...	...	211	...	4,918
" " Unspecified places...	506	2,522	1,076	11,216	15,320	9,883	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,36,423	1,89,573	1,27,695	2,26,679	6,80,870	1,57,915	92,590

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE PRICES OF FOOD-GRAINS.

RETAIL prices of common rice and other food-grains in the several districts of Bengal and in the neighbouring districts of the North-Western Provinces during the first and second fortnights of January and the first fortnight of February 1897, as compared with the corresponding fortnights of January and February in 1896, are published for general information. The latest available prices of common rice in Cachar and Sylhet are also published.

M. FINUCANE,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT, the 23rd February 1897.

Quantity obtainable for a rupee.

Districts.	1897.			1896.		
	15th January.	31st January.	15th February.	15th January.	31st January.	15th February.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
Common Rice—						
Burdwan ...	10 0	9 12	11 0	16 15	16 8	16 8
Birbhum ...	9 6	9 0	9 0 } to } 9 12	18 0	18 0	17 4
Bankura ...	11 8	11 4	11 4	18 12	18 12	18 12
Midnapore ...	10 8	10 8 } to } 11 0	11 0	20 0 } 13 1 } 15 4	20 0 } 11 13 } 15 4	19 8 } 11 13 } 16 0
Hooghly ...	8 8	8 8	9 0	14 0	15 0	14 8
Howrah ...	10 8	10 8	...	12 12	13 0	13 0
24 Parganas ...	10 0	10 8	11 0	14 8	15 7	14 8
Calcutta ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 8	16 0	16 0
Nadia ...	9 2	9 2	9 2	16 0	16 0	16 0
Murshidabad ...	10 0	10 0	10 8	16 0	16 0	16 0
Jessore ...	9 6	10 0	11 0	16 12	16 12	16 12
Khulna ...	10 8	11 3	11 6	18 0	17 0	17 0
Rajshahi ...	9 6	9 12	9 12	16 0	16 0	16 0
Dinajpur ...	9 9	10 0	9 9	13 0	13 0	12 0
Jalpaiguri ...	9 0	9 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
Darjeeling ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	17 4	17 4	17 4
Rangpur ...	10 0	10 8	10 8	...	...	...
Bogra ...	10 2	10 8	10 2	17 4	16 8	16 0
Palna ...	9 7	9 6	10 0	13 8	13 4	13 4
Dacca ...	10 6	10 8	10 8	12 0	12 0	12 0
Mymensingh ...	9 0	9 0	9 0	16 0	14 0	14 0
Faridpur ...	9 8	9 13	9 12	...	...	...
Backergunge ...	10 0	10 8	10 8 } to } 11 0	13 8 } 16 0 } 16 0	13 8 } 15 0 } 15 0	13 8 } 13 0 } 14 0
Tippera ...	11 0	10 10	10 10	16 0	15 0	14 0
Noukhali ...	10 8	10 8	10 0	12 8	12 12	13 0
Chittagong ...	9 0	9 0	9 4	19 8	19 8	19 8
Patna ...	10 2	10 6	10 8	16 0	16 0	16 0
Gaya ...	9 0	9 0	9 8	...	...	...
Shahabad ...	9 8 } and } 10 0	10 0	10 0 } to } 11 0	18 0 } 18 0 } 18 0	18 0 } 17 8 } 18 8	18 0 } 17 0 } 18 8
Saran ...	9 8	9 8	10 0	18 0	18 8	18 8
Champaran ...	8 8	9 0	9 8	15 0	14 0	15 0
Muzaffarpur ...	8 0	9 0	9 0	18 9	19 0	19 11
Darbhanga ...	9 0	9 4	9 0	16 8	15 8	15 0
Monghyr ...	9 2	9 8	9 8	17 10	17 10	18 4
Bhagalpur ...	10 2	10 2	10 12	21 0	20 0	19 0
Purnea ...	10 0	10 0	9 8	16 8	16 0	16 8
Malda ...	9 0	10 0	10 8	17 0	16 0	16 8
Sonthal Parganas ...	10 4	10 0	10 12	23 0	23 10	23 0
Cuttack ...	11 13	11 13	11 13	22 0	25 0	25 0
Balasore ...	11 0	12 0	12 0	23 10	23 10	24 0
Puri ...	10 8	10 8	13 2	14 0	14 8	14 8
Hasaribagh ...	8 0	8 0	9 0	...	...	...
Lohardaga ...	9 0	9 0	8 8 } to } 9 0	14 0 } 14 1 } 14 10	14 8 } 14 10 } 14 10	14 0 } 14 10 } 14 10
Palaman ...	9 4	8 11	8 7	...	...	...
Magbhum ...	11 0	10 8 } to } 10 8	10 0 } to } 10 8	16 0 } to } 17 0	15 0 } to } 16 0	15 0 } to } 16 0
Singbhum ...	12 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	15 0

Districts	1897.			1896.		
	15th January.	31st January.	15th February.	15th January.	31st January.	15th February.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
WHEAT—						
Patna ...	9 8	9 0	8 0 and 9 0	15 0	12 0 and 13 0	12 0 and 13 0
Gaya ...	8 0 8 8	8 0 8 0	7 8 8 0	10 8 12 0	10 0	10 0
Shahabad ...	and 9 0	and 8 12	and 9 0	and 13 0	13 0	11 0
Saran ...	8 8	8 8	8 8	11 10	10 0	10 8
Champan ...	9 8	9 0	8 1½	12 8	12 0	10 8
Muzaffarpur ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 8	12 0	10 8
Darbhanga ...	7 4	7 0	7 0	12 0	12 8	11 8
Monghyr ...	8 12	8 0	8 4	14 0	13 0	12 0
Bhagalpur ...	8 14	8 14	8 14	12 10	12 10	12 10
Purnea ...	10 0	10 4	11 0	18 0	16 0	16 0
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE—						
Patna ...	11 8	11 12	12 8	26 0	26 0	27 0
Gaya ...	10 8	10 8	10 8	22 0	21 8	23 0
Shahabad ...	10 8	11 8	11 0 and 11 8	22 0	21 0	25 0 25 8
Saran ...	10 8	10 8	10 4	24 8	24 8	25 0
Champan ...	10 0	10 8	10 11½	26 4	26 4	28 7
Muzaffarpur ...	10 8	10 0	10 0	24 8	25 0	26 0
Darbhanga ...	9 12	10 0	10 0	28 7	27 6	28 7
Monghyr ...	11 4	10 12	11 8	26 4	25 8	26 0
Bhagalpur ...	11 6	12 0	12 0	26 4	26 4	26 4
Purnea ...	16 0	13 0	...	26 0	24 0	23 0
Sonthal Parganas ...	12 0	12 4	12 0	26 0	25 0	25 0
Hazaribagh ...	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	18 0
Lohardaga ...	10 0	9 0	9 0	18 0	16 0	16 0
Palamau ...	10 14	10 6	9 9	18 9	17 7	18 7
Manbhum ...	12 0	12 0	18 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
Singbhum ...	10 0	10 0	...	.....	.....	.....

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

COMMON RICE—						
Jaunpur ...	9 8	9 8	9 12	10 0	10 0	10 0
Gorakpur ...	8 2	8 2	8 13	16 5	15 5	14 14
Mirzapur ...	7 11	7 13	7 12	12 0	13 0	13 0
Benares ...	7 9	8 1½	8 6	12 9	11 12	12 11½
Ghazipur ...	8 4	9 8	9 4	16 8	14 8	13 8
Ballia ...	8 8	9 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	12 0
WHEAT—						
Jaunpur ...	7 11	7 6	7 12	11 0	11 0	11 0
Gorakpur ...	7 3	7 6	8 9	9 14	9 7	9 14
Mirzapur ...	7 14	8 2	8 9	11 0	10 8	10 8
Benares ...	7 11	8 11½	7 13	11 8	11 1½	10 9
Ghazipur ...	7 0	8 8	8 8	11 8	9 8	9 4
Ballia ...	7 8	7 12	9 0	11 12	10 0	10 0

ASSAM.

Prices of common rice for the week ending 4th February 1897 :—

	Week of report.	Previous week.	Corresponding week of 1896.
	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
CACHAR—			
Janiganj Bazar ...	9 6	9 6	14 0
Heilakandi ...	9 9	9 9	14 14
SYLHET—			
Kani Bazar ...	11 0	10 8	13 6
Chhatak Bazar ...	10 0	10 0	13 8
Sunamganj ...	10 0	10 0	13 0
Habiganj ...	10 8	10 8	13 8
Karimganj ...	8 14	9 8	12 0
Maulvi ...	10 0	10 0	16 0

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 22nd February 1897.

Burdwan.—Rainfall at Sadar 0·84, Kalna 1·40, Katwa 0·73, Raniganj 0·41. Weather seasonable. The recent rain has done much good to the standing *rabi* crops, and ploughing is now going on briskly in many parts. Sugarcane is being pressed. Condition of cattle good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling as follows:—

	Srs.	c.	Srs.	c.	
Sadar	10 9 to 12 0	} per rupee.
Kalna	10 8 to 11 0	
Katwa	10 10 to 10 15	
Raniganj	10 4	

Birbhum.—Rainfall at Sadar 15, Rampur Hat 06. Weather seasonable. Crushing of sugarcane going on. Price of rice at Sadar 9½ seers, and Rampur Hat 11½ seers per rupee.

Bankura.—Rainfall at Bankura 83, Indus 85, Khatra 44, Maliara 57, Gangajalghati 67, Kotalpur 5, Raipur 48, Vishnupur 82. Weather cloudy at the beginning of the week. The recent rain has started ploughing. Pressing of sugarcane going on. Fodder and water sufficient except in a few places. Cow-pox reported. Common rice selling at Bankura and Vishnupur at 11 seers per rupee.

Midnapore.—Rainfall at Sadar 0·77, Contai 1·19, Tamluk 0·42, Ghatal 0·27. Weather seasonable. Prospect of indigo better. Sugarcane is still being pressed. *Rabi* crops are being collected. Threshing of *aman* still continues. Transplantation of *boro* finished. Cattle-disease reported from Salbani, Binpur, and Naraingarh. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	...	11
Contai	...	12 to 13
Tamluk	...	10 to 12
Ghatal	...	10 to 11

Hooghly.—Rainfall at Sadar 37, Serampore 10, Jahanabad 33. Rain too late to do much good to *rabi*. Rice sells from 8½ to 10 seers per rupee.

Howrah.—Rainfall at Sadar 11, Uluberia 16. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *rabi* crops not good. Pressing of sugarcane still going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 9 to 10½ seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—Rainfall at Sadar 16, Barasat 20, Basirhat 05, Diamond Harbour 30. Weather warmer with cloud. Prospects of standing crops poor. Ploughing going on for the next crops. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	c.	
Sadar	9 to 11 0
Barasat	10 0
Basirhat	10 0
Diamond Harbour	10 10

Nadia.—Rainfall at Sadar 46 Kushtea 45, Meherpur 26, Chuadanga 33, Ranaghat 65. Weather fair and seasonable. Prospects of standing crops poor. Rain has facilitated the ploughing of *aus* and jute lands. Water-supply generally deficient. Fodder not sufficient in some places. No cattle-disease. Common rice sells from 8 to 10 seers per rupee. Latest price of rice where test-works are open is 9 seers per rupee. Numbers attending test-works are as follows:—

14th February	...	...	...	...	1,001
15th	...	...	...	...	920
16th	...	...	...	...	590
17th	...	...	...	...	623
18th	...	...	...	...	618
19th	...	...	...	...	610
20th	...	...	...	...	654

Number of persons who received relief at police-stations during the week—men 70, women 231, children 126—total 427. Numbers on relief-works on Saturday, 20th February—Sadar subdivision—men 2,356, women 843, children 2,043—total 5,242; Meherpur subdivision—men 498, women 83, children 108—total 684; Kushtia subdivision—men 403, women 110, children 60—total 573. Gratuitous relief—men 279, women 891, children 286—total 1,456.

Murshidabad.—Rainfall at Sadar 0·18, Kandi 0·23, Jangipur 0·12. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *rabi* crops not favourable. Gram is likely to be a good crop in Jangipur subdivision. Indigo and mulberry doing well. Pressing of sugarcane still continues. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs.	
Sadar	...	...	10½	} per rupee.
Kandi	...	...	11	
Jangipur	...	...	11	

Three test-works opened.

Jessore.—Weather cloudy with drizzling rain at beginning of week. Rainfall at Jessore 0·58, Jhenida 0·33, Magura 0·34, Narail 0·40, Bangaon 0·57. Harvesting of *rabi* crops is almost over. The recent rain has done good to the sowing of *til* and to *boro* seedlings. More rain wanted. Fodder and water available. Sporadic cases of cattle-disease reported from Bangaon. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs.	
Jessore	9 to 10½	} per rupee.
Jhenida	...	...	9½
Magura	...	...	9½ to 10
Narail	...	...	10½
Bangaon	...	...	9 to 10

Khulna.—Rainfall at Khulna 0·21, Bagerhat 0·11, Satkhira nil. Weather getting hot. *Boro* doing well. Sowing of *til* going on. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs.	
Khulna	...	...	10 to 11	} per rupee.
Bagerhat	...	...	12	
Satkhira	...	...	10	

Numbers employed on four relief works—men 274, children 77—total 351. Gratuitous relief—men 107, women 374, children 246—total 727. Wages calculated at 10 seers per rupee. No cattle-disease. Fodder available. Water getting scarce.

Rajshahi.—Rainfall at Sadar 0·15, Nator 0·07, Naugaon 0·16. No change in the prospects of the *rabi* crops. Transplantation of *boro* continues. Lands are being prepared for *bhadoi* rice and jute. Fodder available everywhere. Scarcity of drinking-water reported from some places in Rajapur outpost. Price of rice ranges between 8½ to 12 seers per rupee. Two of five test-relief-works closed on Saturday, the 20th. Report from one not received. Numbers employed on two relief-works—men 509, women nil, children 71—total 580. No gratuitous relief. Price of rice at relief-works, 10 seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Condition of standing crops fairly good. No report of any cattle-disease, nor any complaint for fodder and water. Common rice sells from 9 to 12 seers per rupee.

Jalpaiguri.—No rain. Days warm, nights cool. Preparation of land for *betri* rice commenced. Prospects of standing crops favourable. No complaint of fodder and water. Average price of common rice, 8½ seers per rupee.

Darjeeling.—No rain at Sadar and Kurseong, '03 at Siliguri. Weather seasonable. Hills—Wheat and barley progressing; *tori* and potatoes being harvested. Terai.—*Haimanti* paddy being threshed; ploughing for jute, *bhadoi* rice, and sugarcane going on. Price of coarse rice:—

			Srs.	
Hills	...	...	7 to 8	} per rupee.
Terai	...	...	9 to 11	

Bhutia, 13 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—No rain. Lands being prepared for *aus* and jute. Early *aus* being sown in places. Harvesting of mustard nearly finished. Prospects fair. Common rice selling at 8 to 10 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Bogra.—Slight rain in the district. Average 20 inch. More rain urgently wanted for *aus* and jute sowing. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling at head-quarters 10½ seers, and in the interior from 8½ to 12 seers per rupee.

Pabna.—Rainfall at Sadar 0·50, Sirajganj 0·92. Weather seasonable. Condition of crops partly improved by fall of rain. Price of common rice varies from 8 to 10 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Dacca.—Rainfall at Sadar 25, Manikganj 46, Narainganj 21, Munshiganj nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops not very favourable, but recent rain has done some good. Fodder available. No cattle-disease. Common rice sells at 10 to 11 seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·32, Jamalpur 0·13, Kishorganj 0·75, Netrokona 0·33, Tangail nil. Weather getting warmer. The rainfall will facilitate preparation of lands. Common rice sells from 9 to 12 seers per rupee. Drinking-water at present sufficient.

Faridpur.—Rainfall at Sadar ·03, Goalundo ·30, Madaripur ·13. Weather seasonable. Prospects in Madaripur good, elsewhere as before. More rain wanted. Common rice selling at 9½ to 11 seers per rupee. Fodder and water available.

Backergunge.—Rainfall at Sadar and Patuakhali nil, at Pirojpur and Bhola ·51. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops fair. No cattle-disease. Common *aman* rice selling at 9 to 12 seers per rupee.

Tippera.—Rainfall at Sadar ·09, Chandpur ·16, Brahmanbaria nil. Weather bright and cool for the season. Prospects of *rabi* crops not improved. Fodder and water available. Prices of rice:—

Sadar	...	...	...	Srs.
Brahmanbaria	...	...	...	10 to 11½
Chandpur	...	...	...	10 to 12
			...	10½ to 11½

} per rupee.

Noakhali.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Feni ·05. Prospects of crops fair. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water available. Price of rice 9 to 11 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—No rain. Weather hot with occasional clouds. *Rabi* crops suffering from want of rain. Water and fodder sufficient. Rice selling at 8 to 10 seers per rupee.

Patna.—Rain at Bihar 0·05 only. Recent rain has improved prospects of late *rabi* sowings and of millets and sugarcane now being planted, and has destroyed insect-blight in Barh. Slight damage done to crops, ripe or harvested. Prices rising slightly in Barh. Fodder and water for cattle sufficient except green fodder in Bihar. Price of common rice at Patna, 11 seers per rupee. Numbers on gratuitous relief on Saturday, 20th February—men 17, women 19, children 4—total 40.

Gaya.—Rainfall at Aurangabad ·49; other stations nil. Harvesting of *rabi* commenced. Prospects very good. Price of common rice at Sadar, 10½ seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—No rain. *Rabi* harvest commenced. Poppy prospects continue favourable; lancing and leaf-making in progress. Prices almost stationary. Numbers on relief-works in Bhabhua on Saturday, 20th February—men 456, women 414, children 305—total 1,175; gratuitous relief—men 1,303, women 2,550, children 1,929—total 5,782.

Saran.—No rain. *Rabi* doing well. Mustard, rahar and peas ripening. Average price of *makai* 9 seers 14 chitaks per rupee. Numbers on relief-works on Saturday, 20th February—Sadar subdivision—men 738, women 949, children 1,273—total 2,960; Gopalganj subdivision—men 2,110, women 2,212, children 3,534—total 7,856; Siwan subdivision—men 1,200, women 4,495, children 1,125—total 6,820; Gopalganj subdivision—men 1,272, women 3,636, children 1,318—total 6,226; Siwan subdivision—men 548, women 1,707, children 471—total 2,726. Chapra Town—Gratuitous relief—men 121, women 547, children 60—total 728; Revilganj Town—Gratuitous relief—men 19, women 62, children 6—total 87; Chapra poor-house 101. Hatwa relief-works 5,984, poor-houses 488, doles 302. Manjha poor-houses 48, doles 156. Siwan poor-house 56 (men 10, women 21, children 25).

Champaran.—No rain. *Rabi* crops good. Poppy improving. Opium gathering commenced. Uttarn good. Slight rise in prices: Common rice 9 seers, maize 10 seers. Numbers on relief-works on Saturday, 20th February—men 47,078, women 37,035, children 23,394—total 107,502; gratuitous relief—men 5,244, women 10,354, children 12,252—total 27,880. Bagaha figures, about 15,000 workers and 5,000 gratuitous, not received, excluded.

Muzaffarpur.—No rain. Prospects fair. Prices are—Burma rice 9½ seers, common rice 8½ seers, wheat 7 seers, *makai* 10 seers, barley 11 seers, gram 10½ seers, rahar 12 seers. *Makai* and rahar fix the relief prices. Numbers on relief-works on Saturday, 20th February—Sadar subdivision—men 8,927, women 2,800, children 1,674—total 13,401; Sitamarhi subdivision—men 1,189, women 468, children 275—total 1,932; Hajipur subdivision—men 1,801, women 2,040, children 2,181—total 6,022. Gratuitous relief—Sadar subdivision—men 231, women 561, children 331—total 1,123; Sitamarhi subdivision—men 830, women 1,232, children 1,286—total 3,348; Hajipur subdivision—men 26, women 88, children 16—total 140. Gratuitous relief figures for Majorganj, Bokraha, and Raipura Circle not received—estimated figures are—men 65, women 78, and children 25. Muzaffarpur poor-house—men 31, women 6, children 7—total 44.

Darbhanga.—No rain. Prospects of standing *rabi* crops continue to be fair. Peas are ripening, and in places are being harvested. *Rahar* attaining maturity. Common rice selling at 9 seers and *makai* 10 seers per rupee. Numbers on relief-works on Saturday, the 20th February—Sadar subdivision—men 20,542, women 29,817, children 8,993—total 59,352; Madhubani subdivision—men 31,577, women 28,399, children 13,498—total 73,474; Samastipur subdivision—men 2,210, women 3,053, children 975—total 6,238. Gratuitous relief—Sadar subdivision—men 5,141, women 13,420, children 7,376—total 25,937; Madhubani subdivision—men 4,453, women 12,929, children 7,511—total 24,893; Samastipur subdivision—men 123, women 199, children 121—total 443. Darbhanga Raj-relief works—men 14,525, women 4,796, children 1,867—total 21,097; gratuitous relief—men 2,525, women 5,800, children 3,896—total 12,221.

Monghyr.—Rainfall at Sadar nil. Weather cold with high west wind. Standing crops very promising. Mustard and rape-seed are being gathered. Outturn good. Opium slightly affected by strong west wind. Common rice selling as follows:—

				Srs. c.	
Monghyr	...	...	...	9 to 11	0
Begusarai	...	...	...	9	8
Jamui	...	...	...	8 to 10	0

} per rupee.

Bhagalpur.—Rainfall at Sadar nil. Weather seasonable and healthy. The recent rain is said to have done some harm to mango blossoms. Westerly wind is beneficial to the *rabi* crops. Deficiency of water reported from one part of Supaul subdivision. Price of common rice has risen from 11 seers to 10 seers 10 chittaks per rupee in Banka; 11 to 10 seers in Supaul; 10 seers 12 chittaks to 10 seers 2 chittaks in Sadar. It remains stationary at 10 seers in Madhipura. Price of *marua* in Supaul has risen from 15 to 14 seers per rupee. No cattle-disease. Fodder sufficient. Numbers on relief-works on Saturday (20th)—Madhipura subdivision—men 2,929, women 1,753, children 632—total 5,314; Supaul subdivision—men 274, women 367, children 253—total 894. Gratuitous relief—Madhipura subdivision—children 251, Supaul subdivision—man 1, and children 34.

Purnea.—Rainfall at Sadar nil. Harvesting of mustard and tobacco nearly finished. Outturn fair. Standing *rabi* crops doing fairly well. Lands are being ploughed for next *bhadoi* crops. Fodder and water sufficient. No cattle-disease. Prices of common rice:—

				Srs.	
Sadar	...	...	...	9½	
Kishanganj	...	...	...	10	
Araria	...	...	...	11	

} per rupee.

Malda.—Rainfall at Shibganj 14. Weather getting hot. Wheat and barley ripening. No cattle-disease. Common rice selling at 8½ to 11 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient. Want of drinking-water in some places reported from Gomastapur and Shibganj thanas.

Sonthal Parganas.—Rainfall at Sadar 16. Weather clear with strong west wind. *Rabi* fair in Godda and Pakour; otherwise prospects unchanged. Prices of food-grains stationary. Fodder getting scanty. Water-supply sufficient.

Cuttack.—Rainfall 0.64. Rain has benefited the *dahua* and *jhaimung*. Cattle-disease in places. Fodder sufficient. Rice only available in some places in small quantities. Common rice sells at:—

				Srs. c.	
Cuttack	...	...	...	11 13	
Jajpur	...	...	...	14 7	
Kendrapara	...	...	...	14 7	
Banki	...	...	...	15 12	

} per rupee.

Balasore.—Rainfall at Sadar 1.87. Anxiety of loss of standing *rabi* crops with fear of scarcity of water and fodder removed by rain. *Sarad* rice being threshed; *dahua* rice flourishing well, and is in ear in places; sugarcane being pressed. Price of rice varies from 12 to 16 seers per rupee in the interior. Rice sells at 12 and 13 seers per rupee at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Fodder and water sufficient.

Angul.—Rain on 16th and 17th. No crop on the ground except garden vegetables. *Kulthi* and *chama* harvested. Cultivators engaged in ploughing. Condition of people good. Cattle-disease continues. Fodder sufficient. Price of rice stationary.

Puri.—Rainfall at Sadar 4.25, Khurda .62, Satpura 5.12, Banpur 3.70, Pipli .30. *Dahua* and *mug* growing fairly well. *Mandia* ripening. Land being ploughed for next *sarad* and sugarcane crops. Fodder and grains scarce in tracts adjoining the Chilka, and relief-works have been started. Price of common rice stationary.

Hazaribagh.—Rainfall at Sadar 1.02, Giridih .82. Weather hot. Pressing of sugarcane almost completed. Prospect of poppy good. *Rabi* fair. Rice sells at 8 to 9 seers per rupee.

Lohardaga.—Rainfall 1.87. State of standing crops good. Ploughing continues. Rice sells at Ranchi 9 seers, and in the interior from 8 to 12 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease reported from some police-stations. Grain stocks sufficient for the present.

Palamau.—No rain. Weather bright and becoming hot. Rain of previous week did some damage (not much) to *rabi* in eastern part of district. *Rabi* doing well; if no more rain. *Rabi* and *mahua* should yield well. The price of common rice under 9 seers prevailed in 57 markets, against 37 in previous week; at 9 seers in 21 against 41; and over 9 seers and under 10 seers in 12 against 13. Burma rice is on the way here from Gaya. Number on relief-works—2,602 and on gratuitous relief 409. Cattle-disease reported from Balamath thana.

Manbhum.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·22, Gobindpur ·52. Weather Seasonable. Sugar-cane being planted in places. Cattle-disease reported from thanas Raghunathpur and Burrar bazar. Fodder and drinking-water both reported to be insufficient in thana Raghunathpur, and the latter in thana Gourangdih. Average price of common rice 10 seers per rupee at Sadar; 9 and 9½ at Gobindpur. Stocks of food-grains sufficient at present. Nine test-works in operation. 2,403 persons on regular gratuitous relief, and about 1,000 more on casual out the district. Recent rains have softened the soil, and ploughing is in progress throughout the district.

Singhbhum.—Rainfall at Chaibassa 1·70, Cuackradharpur 1·53, Ghatsilla 1·47. Prices stationary. Rice plentiful.

General Summary.—There was general rain in South-West and East Bengal, Orissa and Chota Nagpur during the week. The rain has to some extent benefited the *rabi* crops, and has facilitated ploughing for the autumn crops. Spring rice is doing well. In Bihar the harvesting of *rabi* crops and the gathering of opium have begun. The pressing of sugar-cane is still going on. The fodder-supply is generally sufficient. The want of drinking-water is beginning to be felt in some districts. In the distressed districts the prices of the food-grains on which the relief wages are based are—Nadia (common rice) 9 seers, Khulna (common rice) 10 seers, Rajshahi (common rice) 10 seers, Patna (common rice) 11 seers, Shahabad 10½ seers, Saran (Indian-corn) 9 seers 14 chitaks, Champaran (Indian-corn) 10 seers, Muzaffarpur (Indian-corn) 10 seers, Darbhanga (Indian-corn) 10 seers, Bhagalpur (common rice) 10 seers. These figures show a slight fall in Rajshahi and Patna, and a slight rise in Champaran; elsewhere prices were stationary.

The numbers on relief-works and in receipt of gratuitous relief on Saturday, the 20th February, were—

Relief-works—

Nadia	... 6,499 (men 3,252, women 1,036, children 2,211).
Khulna	... 351 (men 274, women nil, children 77).
Rajshahi	... 580 (men 509, women nil, children 71).
Shahabad	... 1,175 (men 456, women 414, children 305).
Saran	... 42,241 (men 12,098, women 18,631, children 11,512).
Champaran	... 107,692 (men 47,073, women 37,035, children 23,394).
Muzaffarpur	... 21,335 (men 11,917, women 5,308, children 4,130).
Darbhanga	... 139,064 (men 54,329, women 61,269, children 23,466).
Bhagalpur	... 6,208 (men 3,203, women 2,120, children 885).
Palamau	... 2,602.

Total 327,577, against 300,763 in the previous week

Gratuitous relief—

Nadia	... 1,456 (men 279, women 891, children 286).
Khulna	... 727 (men 107, women 374, children 246).
Patna	... 40 (men 17, women 19, children 4).
Shahabad	... 5,782 (men 1,303, women 2,550, children 1,929).
Saran	... 15,772 (men 3,020, women 9,838, children 2,914).
Champaran	... 27,880 (men 5,244, women 10,354, children 12,282).
Muzaffarpur	... 4,823 (men 1,193, women 1,965, children 1,665).
Darbhanga	... 51,273 (men 9,717, women 26,548, children 15,008).
Bhagalpur	... 286 (men 1, woman nil, children 285).
Palamau	... 409.
Manbhum	... 2,403.

Total ... 110,851, against 104,270 in the previous week.

Grand total on Government relief 438,428, against 405,033 in the previous week.

Private relief—

Relief-works—

Darbhanga Raj	... 21,097 (men 14,525, women 4,705, children 1,867).
Hatwa	... 5,984.

Gratuitous relief—

Darbhanga Raj	... 12,221 (men 2,525, women 5,600, children 3,896).
Hatwa	... 790.
Rest of Saran district	... 1,177.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

The 23rd February, 1897.

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the

Number.		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
			WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU, (Sorghum Vulgare.)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
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- A. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kalna 10 seers, Katwa 10 seers 15 chittaks, and Raniganj 10½ seers.
 B. At Ranipur Hat the retail price of salt is 11 seers per rupee.
 C. At Vishnupur the retail price of salt is 9½ seers per rupee.
 D. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt (panga) per rupee are:—Contai 8 seers, Tamruk 8½ seers, and Ghatal 9 seers 2 chittaks.
 E. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Sorampore 10 seers, and Jahangabad 9 seers (panga).
 F. In the marts in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Chotla 10 seers, Barasat 8½ seers, Magrahat 9 seers, and Baduria 9 seers 5 chittaks.
 G. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kushtia (Bahadurkhali) 10½ seers (panga), Chuadanga 9 seers 5 chittaks (panga), Moherpur 10 seers (karkatch), and Ranaghat 10 seers (crushed).
 H. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Lallaugh 11 seers, Kandi 11 seers, and Jangipur 10 seers.
 I. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Jhenida 9 seers 1 chittak, Magura 8 seers 11 chittaks, Narail 8 seers 11 chittaks, and Bangaon 9 seers 2 chittaks.

PEERS OF 80 TOLAH.

BAJRA OR CUMBU. <i>Pennisetum typhoid- eum.</i>)	MARUA OR RAOL. (<i>Elemine Corocana.</i>)
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[illegible]

KANGNI OR KAKUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Setaria Italica.</i>)			GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KADALAN OR SUNAGA. (<i>Cicer arctium.</i>)		
Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.

S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...	11 0	11 0	13 8	...	...	...
...	9 6	9 6	12 0	...	...	...
...	9 8	9 8	14 0	...	...	...
...	Small.		10 0	10 0	} 12	
...	Patna kind.		9 0	...		
...	8 0	8 0	16 0	...	...	...
...	10 8	13 8	...	...	...

...	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	13 8	...	...	...
8 0	8 0	10 10	10 10	10 10	10 0	14 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	11 13	10 13	13 8	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	17 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	10 0	9 0	13 8	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	12 0	...	...	...

...	...	...	...	11 4	11 4	17 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	9 9 8	9 0	14 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	14 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	11 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	13 8	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	8 4	8 4	10 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	14 0	...	...	...

...	...	...	...	9 4	9 4	14 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	12 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	13 8	...	...	...

Head-quarters Station Bazars of the Districts of Bengal on the 15th February 1897.

												WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.						DISTRICTS.	Number.
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE. (Zea Mays.)			ARHAR OR THUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus Indicus.)			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			SALT.							
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.					
BENGAL.																			
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.		
...	15	8	14	8	18	8	80	0	80	0	80	0	11	8		
...		
...	8	0	7	8	11	4	180	0	160	0	160	0	10	8		
...	9	4	9	4	11	8	320	0	320	0	320	0	9	8		
...	18	0	18	0	19	8	213	0	160	0	240	0	10	0		
...	7	8	7	8	12	0	160	0	160	0	160	0	9	0		
...	9	0	11	13	...	...	100	0	100	0	...	9	0		
...	10	0	9	0	12	0	100	0	100	0	90	0	9	0		
...	10	0	16	0	12	4	10	0	13	14	80	0	80	0	85	0	9	6	
...	15	4	15	4	22	13	128	0	128	0	128	0	10	5		
...	14	0	14	0	18	...	120	0	120	0	190	0	11	0		
...	16	0	16	0	20	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	0		
...	9	0	9	0	10	0	100	0	160	0	160	0	8	0		
...	15	12	15	0	22	8	240	0	240	0	240	0	9	0		
...	130	0	130	0	120	0	9	6		
...	8	8	8	0	10	0	120	0	120	0	120	0	8	8		
14	0	14	0	18	0	7	0	7	0	8	0	120	0	120	0	120	0		
12	8	12	8	...	...	7	0	7	0	10	10	120	0	120	0	80	0
...	90	0	90	0	90	0	7	15		
...	16	8	16	8	26	0	140	0	140	0	140	0	9	4		
...	9	0	9	0	17	8	180	0	130	0	110	0	9	0		
...	8	0	8	0	13	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	8	0		
...	13	4	160	0	160	0	160	0	8	12		
...	80	0	80	0	80	0	9	0		
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- J. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Bagerhat 9 seers and Satkhira not reported.
 K. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt (panga) per rupee are:—Nator 8½ seers and Naugaon 8 seers.
 L. In Alipur Duars the retail price of salt is 8 seers per rupee.
 M. The retail price of salt is 8 seers per rupee at Kurseong, and 9 seers at Siliguri.
 N. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kurigram 8 seers, Nilphamari 9 seers, Gaibandha 8½ seers.
 O. At Sirajganj the retail price of salt is 8½ seers per rupee.
 P. In the subdivisions in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Madanganj not reported, Manikganj 9 seers, Munshirhat 10 seers 6 chittaks, Mirkadim 10 seers 6 chittaks.
 Q. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kishoreganj 9 seers 6 chittaks, Jamalpur 8 seers, Kagmari 8 seers, and Notrakona 8 seers.
 R. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Madaripur 10 seers (crushed) and Goalundo 8 seers (panga).
 S. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Bhola 8 seers, Pirojpur 8 seers, and Patuakhali not reported.

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the Head-quarters

Number.		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN																	
			WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU. (Sorghum Vulgare.)					
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.			
BENGAL—concluded.																				
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	24	Tippera	7 4	7 4	10 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	10 10	10 10	13 0	...	...	...
	25	Noakhali	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	13 0	10 0	10 8	14 0	...	...	...
	26	Chittagong	6 8	6 9	10 13	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	10 12	9 4	9 0	13 0	...	...	...
BIHAR.																				
PATNA DIVISION.	27	Patna	{ 8 0 and 9 0 }	9 0	{ 12 0 and 13 0 }	12 0	13 0	25 0	9 0	9 8	12 0	10 8	10 6	18 8	13 0	11 8	20 0			
	28	Gaya	7 8	8 0	10 0	10 4	10 8	21 0	7 8	7 0	10 0	9 8	9 0	16 0	10 8	10 12	19 4			
	29	Shahabad	{ 8 0 and 9 0 }	{ 8 0 and 8 12 }	11 0	...	...	...	9 0	{ 9 0 to 9 8 }	...	{ 10 0 to 11 0 }	10 0	13 0	...	...	...
	30	Saran	8 8	8 8	10 8	12 0	12 0	21 0	7 0	8 0	11 0	10 0	9 8	17 0	...	...	...
	31	Champaran	8 14	9 0	10 8	...	12 0	28 0	6 4	6 4	8 8	9 34	9 0	18 8	...	...	...
	32	Munafarpur	8 0	8 0	10 8	12 0	12 0	17 0	7 0	7 0	8 8	9 0	9 0	15 0	...	...	...
BHAGALPUR DIVISION.	33	Darbhanga	7 0	7 0	11 8	11 0	11 8	17 6	7 8	7 0	10 8	9 0	9 4	19 11	...	...	...
	34	Monghyr	8 4	8 0	12 0	11 8	11 0	22 8	6 0	6 0	9 8	9 8	9 8	15 0	...	...	20 0	
	35	Bhagalpur	8 14	8 14	12 10	12 10	11 8	22 11	8 14	8 14	13 14	10 12	10 2	18 4	...	...	...
	36	Purnea (Kasba)	11 0	10 4	16 0	...	...	21 0	8 0	8 12	15 0	9 8	10 0	19 0	...	...	...
	37	Malda (English Bazar).	...	8 0	13 0	...	...	...	7 0	...	12 0	10 8	10 0	16 8	...	...	...
	38	Sonthal Parganas.	7 12	7 6	9 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	13 8	10 12	10 0	16 8	...	...	...
ORISSA.																				
ORISSA DIVISION.	39	Cuttack	7 4	7 4	8 8	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	13 2	11 13	11 13	23 0	...	...	...
	40	Balasore	10 0	10 0	16 0	9 8	9 8	10 0	{ 8 0 to 10 0 }	{ 8 0 to 10 0 }	18 0	13 0	12 0	25 0	...	...	...
	41	Puri	6 9	6 9	7 12	...	...	...	7 14	7 14	11 13	13 2	10 8	24 0	...	...	...
CHOTA NAGPUR.																				
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.	42	Hazaribagh	7 0	7 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	16 0	6 0	6 0	8 0	9 0	8 0	14 8	...	...	...
	43	Lohardaga	{ 7 12 Red. 8 0 White. 5 12 to 6 12 }	{ 8 0 6 0 to 7 0 }	{ 8 8 6 4 to 7 12 }	...	...	...	{ 7 0 to 7 8 }	8 0	13 0	{ 8 8 to 9 0 }	9 0	14 0	...	...	...
	44	Palamau	7 14	7 14	11 13	9 0	...	20 4	7 5	7 5	11 4	8 7	8 11	14 10	...	...	...
	45	Manbhum	9 0	8 0	10 8	...	...	...	{ 7 8 to 8 0 }	9 0	14 8	{ 10 0 to 10 8 }	10 8	{ 15 0 to 16 0 }	12 0	...	20 0
	46	Singhbhum	8 0	8 0	12 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	15 0	...	...	...

- T. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Brahmanbaria 8 seers and Chandpur 9 seers.
 U. At Peni Hat the retail price of salt is 7 seers per rupee.
 V. At Cox's Bazar the retail price of salt is 8½ seers per rupee.
 W. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Barh 10 seers, Dinapur 10½ seers, and Bihar not reported.
 X. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Jahanabad 9 seers 6 chittaks, Aurangabad 9 seers 5 chittaks, and Nawada 9 seers.
 Y. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Sasaram 10½ seers, Buxar 11 seers, and Bhabua not reported.
 Z. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Siwan 11 seers 11 chittaks, and Gopalganj 11 seers 9 chittaks.
 a. At Bettiah the retail price of salt is 9½ seers per rupee.
 b. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Hajipur 9½ seers and Sitamarhi 11 seers.
 c. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Manuhari 11½ seers and Samastipur 11 seers.

CALCUTTA,

The 23rd February 1897.

ES OF 80 TOLARS.

URA OR CUMBU. *Elanus leucurus* (Linn.) MARUA OR RAGI. *Elanus coronatus* (Linn.)

Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.
-----------------------------	---	-----------------	-----------------------------	---

S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.

...
...
...
...	...	15 0	15 0	25 0	...
...
...
...	...	13 0	13 8	25 0	...
...	...	12 4	...	...	...
...
...	...	12 0	12 0	28 7	...
...
...
...	...	11 0	10 0	...	...
12 8	22 0	...	...	...	...
...
...
...
...	...	12 0	12 0	23 0	...
...	...	13 0	13 0	30 0	...
...	...	11 4	12 2	20 4	...
...
...

KANONI OR KAKUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Setaria italica</i> .)			GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KADALA OR BUNAGA. (<i>Cicer arietinum</i> .)		
Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn.

S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...	8	0	8	0	13	...	...	...
...	8	0	8	0	12	...	...	...
...	8	0	8	0	12	...	...	...

15	0	15	0	25	0	11	8	11	8	17	...
12	0	11	8	15	4	9	12	9	8	18	...
...	...	...	...	{ 11 0 11 4 and and 11 8 12 8 }		...	...	...	...	...	...
12	0	10	0	16	0	11	0	11	0	17	...
...	...	...	...	10	1	10	8	12	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	10	8	10	8	10	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	10	0	9	8	12	...	...	...

...	...	13	8	12	0	11	0	17	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	10	12	10	12	10	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	9	0	10	0	10	...	...	...
12	...	13	0	8	0	9	0	10	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	9	8	9	7	11	...	...	...

...	...	...	...	Biri or kala		14	7	13	2	12	...
...	...	...	...	Chhola.		9	0	9	0	10	...
...	...	...	...	Biri or kala		13	0	13	0	12	...
...	...	...	...	...		11	13	11	0	9	...

...	...	...	...	9	0	9	0	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	{ 7 8 to to 8 8 }		9	0	9	0	...	...
...	...	...	...	9	9	9	13	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	10	0	{ 9 8 to to 10 0 }		...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	8	0	10	0	...	...	...	...

Station Basars of the Districts of Bengal on the 15th February 1897—(concluded).

															WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40. SEERS.					DISTRICTS.	Number.
INDIAN-CORN OR MAHER. (Zea Mays.)			ARRAR OR THUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus indicus.)			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			SALT.									
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.							
Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.	Rs. Ch. S.							
...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	T 9 0	Panga. 9 0	10 0	...	...	3 14 0	Tippera.	24
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	U 8 0	Panga. 8 0	10 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	3 12 0	Hoakhall.	25
...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	V 8 0	8 0	11 0	4 12 0	5 0 0	3 8 0	Chittagong.	26
12 8	11 12	27 0	16 0	18 0	21 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	W 10 0	Panga. 10 0	11 0	3 12 0	3 6 9	Patna.	27	CHITTAGONG DIVISION.					
10 8	10 8	22 0	12 0	18 0	20 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	X 9 8	Panga. 10 0	10 10	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	Gaya.		28				
{ 11 0 and 11 8 }	11 8	23 0	140 0	140 0	130 0	Y 9 8 and 10 0 Z	10 0	11 0	{ 4-3-6 and 4-0-0 }	4 0 0	3 10 0	Shahabad.		29				
10 4	10 8	25 0	13 4	12 8	13 0	200 0	160 0	160 0	10 0	10 0	10 10	4 0 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	Saran.		30				
10 11 1	10 8	25 8	12 7 1	12 12	19 8	200 0	200 0	180 0	a 10 15	10 0	10 8 4	0 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	Champana.		31				
10 0	10 0	25 0	12 0	12 0	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	b 11 0	Panga. 11 0	11 0	13 10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	MusaGarpur.		32				
10 0	10 0	28 7	11 8	11 0	18 9	160 0	160 0	176 0	c 10 8	Muskat. 10 0	11 8	3 8 0	4 0 0	3 8 0	Darbhanga.		33				
11 8	10 12	25 0	13 0	10 8	16 0	160 0	160 0	{ 128 0 to 128 0 }	d 9 0	9 0	10 0	4 7 1	4 7 1	3 8 0	Monghyr.		34				
12 0	12 0	25 4	11 6	11 6	16 6	160 0	151 8	151 8	e 10 0	Panga. 10 0	10 11 4	0 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	Bhagalpur.		35				
...	13 0	23 0	...	11 0	16 9	320 0	320 0	320 0	f 9 8	Panga. 10 0	10 0	4 0 0	...	3 10 0	Purnea (Kasba).		36				
...	12 0	30 0	11 8	160 0	140 0	160 0	g 8 1 9 8 Panga. 9-0-9-0	10 8	{ 4 4 0 0 Panga. 4-3-0-4-3-0 }	Malda (English Bazar).		37				
12 0	12 4	25 0	13 0	13 2	17 8	160 0	160 0	180 0	h 10 4	Panga. 10 4	10 8	13 12 0	3 14 6	3 10 0	Southel Pargana.		38				
...	...	...	13 13	13 2	19 11	90 0	90 0	80 0	i 10 12	Karkatch. 10 12	10 12	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 7 0	Cuttack.	39			
...	...	...	0 8 0	10 8	100 0	100 0	120 0	10 6	j 6 10	Panga. 6 10	10 8	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 8 0	Balasore.	40			
...	...	...	10 8	10 8	17 1	80 0	80 0	80 0	k 12 4	12 0	12 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	Puri.	41			
10 0	10 0	18 0	10 8	10 0	16 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	l 8 0	8 0	9 0	11 7 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	Hamaribagh.	42					
9 0	9 0	16 0	8 8	9 0	{ 12 0 to 14 0 }	160 0	160 0	160 0	m 8 8	8	10 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 1 0	Lohardaga.	43					
9 9	10 6	18 7	8 7	8 7	14 10	...	...	...	n 7 14	Panga. 9 0	9 4	...	...	...	Palaman.	44
13 0	12 0	20 0	13 0	12 0	18 0	...	...	...	o 9 0	10 0	10 10	{ 3 14 0 to 4 0 0 }	4 0 0	3 11 0	Manbhum.	45		
...	10 0	...	12 0	10 0	14 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	p 7 0	7 0	8 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 6 0	Singbhum.	46					

- d. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Begusarai 10½ seers and Jamui 9 seers.
e. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Banka 8½ seers, Madhupura 9 seers, and Supaul 10 seers.
f. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Bhagalpur 9 seers and Supaul 10 seers.
g. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Deoghur 9 seers (panga), Godda 9 seers (mixed), Jamtara 9 seers (panga), Pakour 11 seers (karkatch), and Rajmahal 9 seers (panga).
h. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt (panga) per rupee are :—Jajpur 8 seers and Kendrapara 9 seers.
i. At Bhadrak the retail price of salt (panga) is 9 seers per rupee.
j. At Khurda the retail price of salt is 10½ seers per rupee.
k. At Giridih the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.

Published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, FEBRUARY 24, 1897.

PRICES-CURRENT (wholesale) of Food-grains, Firewood, &c.,

MARKS.												
	RICE (BEST SORT).			COMMON RICE (note above).			WHEAT (<i>Triticum sativum</i>).			BARLEY (<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>).		
	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.
Calcutta ...	6 0 0	6 0 0	5 0 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	3 2 0	4 12 0	5 0 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	3 8 0
Burdwan ...	4 0 0	5 4 0	...	3 8 0	4 0 0	...	4 2 0	4 12 0	...	...	...	...
Midnapore ...	{ 4 4 0 to 4 8 0 }	4 4 0	...	{ 3 6 0 to 3 8 0 }	3 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pabna ...	6 10 0	6 10 0	...	4 0 0	4 4 3	...	4 12 0	4 6 0	...	...	...	...
Rangpur ...	5 8 0	5 8 0	...	3 14 0	3 14 0	...	5 8 0	...	...	...	...	...
Dacca ...	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 5 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	2 12 0	4 13 0	4 13 0	3 1 0	...	...	...
Chittagong ...	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 10 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	3 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 12 0	...	...	...
Patna ...	4 5 0	4 2 0	3 4 0	3 12 0	3 10 0	2 1 6	4 8 0	4 2 0	{ 3 0 0 and 3 4 0 }	3 5 0	3 0 0	1 9 0
Mumaiarpur ...	5 11 0	5 11 6	...	4 11 0	4 7 0	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	...	3 5 0	3 5 3	...
Bhagalpur ...	4 8 0	4 8 0	...	3 11 6	3 15 0	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	...	3 3 0	3 8 0	...
Outlook ...	4 5 6	4 5 6	3 0 0	3 3 3	3 3 3	1 8 0	5 3 6	5 3 6	4 12 0	...	...	...
Ranchi ...	{ 5 5 0 to 5 11 0 }	5 0 0	...	{ 4 7 0 to 4 11 0 }	4 7 0	...	{ 5 2 6 to 7 9 9 }	{ 5 0 0 to 6 10 6 }	...	...	...	...

CALCUTTA,

The 23rd February 1897.

JUAR OR OMOLUM (<i>Sorghum vulgare</i>).			BAJRA OR CUMBU (<i>Pennisetum typhoides</i>).			MARUA OR RAGI (<i>Eleusine coracana</i>).			GRAM, CHANA, CHOLA, KADALAY, OR SUNAGA (<i>Cicer arietinum</i>).		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
3 4 0	3 8 0	2 4 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	2 12 0	...	...	...	3 8 0	3 12 0	2 12 0
...	3 10 0	3 10 0	...
...
...	4 0 0	4 0 0	...
...	3 12 0	3 12 0	...
...	4 1 0	4 1 0	2 10 0
...	4 14 0	5 0 0	3 8 0
3 0 0	3 7 0	1 14 6	...	...	...	2 8 0	2 8 0	1 7 0	3 8 0	3 7 0	2 5 0
...	3 13 0	3 13 0	...
...	3 11 6	3 12 0	...
...	Biri or kalai.		2 0 0
...	2 10 8	2 15 6	2 0 0
...	4 11 0	4 7 0	}
...	to	to	
...	5 5 0	5 0 0	...

PRICES PER MAUND OF

INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE (Zeamays).			ARHAR DAL OR THUR - CADJAN PEA (<i>Cajanus indicus</i>).			LINSEED.			MUSTARD AND RAPSEED.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
...	3 8 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 4 0	3 0 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	...
...	...	...	4 0 0	4 9 0	...	...	...	...	4 6 0	5 5 0	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mustard.		...
...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	4 2 0	...	4 12 0	5 8 0	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 15 0	...	...
...	...	...	4 6 0	4 3 0	...	4 6 0	4 6 0	...	Rapeseed.		...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	4 12 0	...
3 0 0	3 0 0	...	5 6 0	5 6 0	...	11 0 0	11 0 0	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	...
...	...	...	3 15 0	3 15 0	1 15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 4 0	5 4 0	4 4
...
3 1 0	3 4 0	1 9 0	2 8 0	2 8 0	1 14 6	3 5 0	3 4 0	...	4 0 0	4 6 0	...
4 0 0	4 0 0	...	5 7 0	4 11 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 5 3	3 2 0	...	3 8 3	3 8 0	...	3 12 0	4 0 0	...	3 11 6	3 13 0	...
...	...	...	2 12 3	2 14 6	2 0 0	...	...	...	3 13 0	4 11 0	...
...	...	...	6 2 0	6 2 8	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	...	{ 5 0 0 to 5 12 0 }		...

STANDARD SEERS.

TEA OR JINJILI SEED.			SUGAR (RAW).			COTTON, CLEANED.			JUTE.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
4 4 0	4 12 0	4 10 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 4 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	5 4 0	5 4 0	5 0 0
...	...	...	4 4 0	4 8 0	...	16 0 0	17 0 0	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	4 0 0 to 4 6 0	4 4 0	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	3 12 0	3 14 0	...	24 0 0	24 0 0	...	4 4 0	4 7 0	5 4 0
...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	...	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	...
...	...	...	5 4 0	5 4 0	...	...	...	...	...	3 12 0	...
...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	6 0 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	16 0 0	...	...	...
...	4 3 0	...	3 0 0	3 4 0	...	15 0 0	15 0 0	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	...
...
...	...	...	...	3 4 0	...	17 0 0	16 0 0	...	...	...	...
...	4 3 0	...	4 14 0	4 14 0	...	20 8 0	20 8 0	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	4 0 0 to 4 7 0	4 7 0	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	...	...	...	...

GHI (CLAMPED BUTTER).			TOBACCO LEAF.			HIDES (COW).			GRASS.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
30 0 0	30 0 0	34 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	...	250-0-0 per 100 pieces.	250-0-0 per 100 pieces.	...	6 8 0	6 8 0	6 6
25 5 0	26 10 0	...	...	...	...	Uncleaned hides, per piece.	...	...	...	...	...
32 0 0	22 0 0	...	5 4 0 to 6 14 0	5 12 0 to 7 4 0	...	Cleaned hides, per piece.	...	...	...	...	...
29 0 0	29 0 0	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29 0 0	29 0 0	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	...	10 undles per rupee.	10 bundles per rupee.	...
35 0 0	35 0 0	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	27 0 0 per maund.	27 0 0	...	8 12 0	8 12 0	...
36 0 0	36 0 0	37 0 0	9 8 0	12 0 0	...	18 0 0 per maund.	18 0 0	...	...	...	...
22 0 0	22 0 0	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	...	...	...	0 6 0	0 6 0	...
22 13 2	22 13 9	...	11 7 0	11 7 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26 0 0	29 0 0	...	8 0 0	7 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 8 0	30 8 0	...	4 0 0	8 4 0	...	22 0 0 per maund.	22 0 0	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	20
26 10 0 to 28 0 0	26 10 0 to 32 0 0	...	13 0 0	8 0 0 to 13 0 0	...	2 0 0 per piece.	2 0 0	...	0 8 0	0 8 0	...

in the undermentioned Marls of Bengal on the 15th February 1897.

STRAW.			JUAR STALKS.			PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 STANDARD BEERS.									MARLS.
						IRON.			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
5 4 0	5 4 0	5 2 0	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 10 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	3 11	0 3 12	0 3 8 0	1. Calcutta.
	per kahan.														Panga.
7 0 0	7 0 0	...	...	...	...	6 8 0	6 8 0	...	0 8 0	0 8 0	...	3 5	0 3 5 0	...	2. Burdwan.
	per kahan.														Crushed.
2 0 0	2 0 0	...	...	...	...	4 4 0	4 4 0	...	0 3 0	0 4 0	...	3 15	0 3 15 0	...	3. Midnapore.
	per kahan.					4 8 0	4 8 0	...				3 13	0 3 12 0	...	Crushed.
0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	...	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	7 8 0	0 4 3	0 4 3	...	4 4	0 4 4 0	3 9 0	4. Pabna.
	per maund.														Panga.
10	10	...	...	...	...	6 0 0	6 0 0	...	0 4 0	0 4 0	...	4 4	0 4 4 0	...	5. Rangpur.
	bundles per rupee.														Panga.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	...	0 4 9	0 4 9	0 4 9	4 3	0 4 3 0	3 10 0	6. Dacca.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	4 12	0 5 0 0	3 8 0	7. Chittagong.
0 7 0	0 4 6	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	3 12	0 3 12 0	3 6 9	8. Patna.
	per maund.														Panga.
...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	0 4 0	0 4 0	...	3 10	0 3 10 0	...	9. Munaffarpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 4 0	5 8 0	...	0 4 0	0 3 9	...	4 0	0 4 0 0	...	10. Bhagalpur.
2 10 0	2 10 0	2 8 0	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 8 0	3 0	0 3 0 0	3 7 0	11. Cuttack.
	per kahan.														Karkach.
No fixed rate.		...	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	...	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 8	0 4 8 0	4 1 0	12. Ranchi.
															Panga.

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from
14th to 20th February 1897.**

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1897.				Inches.						Inches.		%			Inches.	
Feb.	14th	134.5	9.8	29.941	72.2	84.1	24.8	59.3	67.7	.626	65.3	81	N N W, W S and calm.	61	Nil	Chiefly clear.
"	15th	36.5	Nil	.954	70.5	70.8	4.3	66.5	68.2	.662	67.0	81	S S E and variable	67	0.08	Cloudy, o, d.
"	16th	98.6	"	.916	70.0	73.7	7.6	66.1	68.2	.669	67.2	91	S S E, E by N, and E S E.	61	0.08	Cloudy, o, d.
"	17th	123.2	1.8	.883	70.7	76.5	12.0	64.5	68.8	.680	67.7	91	S by E and S S E	45	0.01	Chiefly cloudy, o, g, d.
"	18th	134.9	9.6	.924	69.6	78.7	19.6	59.1	59.5	.380	51.4	55	W N W and N N W.	102	Nil	Clear.
"	19th	136.3	8.4	.837	68.2	82.0	28.8	53.2	59.3	.394	52.3	60	W by N and W S W.	82	"	Clear.
"	20th	140.8	9.1	.866	71.2	83.5	22.0	61.5	61.5	.422	54.2	60	W S W, W N W, and N W by W.	59	"	Chiefly clear.

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	Inches.
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	29.910
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	Hours.
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	...	...	...	38.7
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	70.3
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	73.4
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	30.9
The maximum temperature	...	...	...	84.1
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	...	...	...	Miles.
	...	...	...	11
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	%
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	75
	...	...	...	67
The total fall of rain from 14th to 20th February 1897	...	...	...	Inches.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	0.17
The total fall from 1st January to 20th February 1897	...	...	...	0.30
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	1.63
	...	...	...	1.29

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph. The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed, open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph. The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

— dew; = fog; o, overcast; g, gloomy; d, drizzling rain.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 22nd February 1897.

J. H. GILLILAND,
For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

Results of the Barometrical and Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee, from 14th to 20th February 1897.

FROM JANUARY 10 TO FEBRUARY 1897.												
Month.	Date.	Pressure at 10 A.M. corrected and reduced to 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.					HYGROMETRY.			Rainfall, past 24 hours.	
			Daily mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Dry bulb at 10 A.M.	Wet bulb at 10 A.M.	Vapour tension at 10 A.M.	Dew point at 10 A.M.		Humidity at 10 A.M.
1897.		Inches.	°		°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%	Inches.
February	14th	30.040	73.4	86.8	26.9	59.9	76.6	70.6	.669	67.3	73	Nil
"	15th	.063	69.6	71.0	2.9	68.1	70.6	65.6	.595	62.4	75	0.01
"	16th	29.995	70.3	74.6	8.7	65.9	69.6	67.6	.618	66.4	90	0.14
"	17th	.982	71.0	77.0	12.1	64.9	69.6	68.4	.680	67.8	94	0.02
"	18th	30.013	69.3	80.7	22.6	57.9	73.3	59.9	.338	48.2	41	Nil
"	19th	29.982	68.7	83.5	20.6	53.9	75.5	59.7	.305	45.4	35	"
"	20th	.989	74.0	86.2	24.4	61.8	77.6	68.6	.580	63.2	81	"

The mean 10 A.M. pressure of the seven days Inches 30.002

The mean temperature of the seven days ° 70.9

The extreme variation of temperature 32.9

The maximum temperature 86.8

The mean 10 A.M. relative humidity of the seven days % 67

The total fall of rain from 14th to 20th February 1897 Inches 0.17

* The daily mean temperatures are the crude means of maximum and minimum temperatures.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL,
The 22nd February 1897.

C. LITTLE,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Vital Statistics of the Districts of Bengal for the month of December 1896.

Divisions.	Districts.	BIRTHS.				DEATHS.												REMARKS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		Population under registration.				CHOLERA.				SMALL-POX.				FEVER.					INJURY.				OTHER CAUSES.				TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES.		AVERAGE OF CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
		Population registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	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Vital Statistics of Towns in Bengal with a population of 20,000 and over during the month of December 1896.

Districts.	Towns.	Population under registra- tion.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.										REMARKS.						
			Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	CHOLERA.		SMALL-POX.		FEVER.		DYSENTERY AND DIARRHOEA.		INJURY.			OTHER CAUSES.		TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES.			
					Number re-	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number re-	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number re-	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number re-	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number re-	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.		Number re-	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number re-	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number re-	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Burdwan	1. Burdwan	34,677	48	16.68	1	2.4	...	...	73	25.32	33	7.99	3	...	...	...	108	37.56	175	60.24	
Medinipur	2. Medinipur	32,454	74	22.82	1	3.6	...	...	75	23.14	13	4.00	...	...	...	...	118	45.80	115	42.72	
Hugly	3. Hugly and Chinsura	33,049	87	26.33	1	2.9	...	...	67	20.27	34	10.30	...	...	...	...	113	41.28	210	76.20	
Howrah	4. Howrah	116,938	338	29.00	27	2.4	...	...	65	5.60	25	8.28	...	...	...	...	113	37.64	168	69.04	
	5. Cosimbore-Chinpur	31,493	51	16.44	3	1.08	...	...	109	34.60	10	3.19	...	...	...	...	338	36.84	314	32.28	
	6. Manikata	32,583	42	12.92	4	1.44	...	...	23	7.26	8	2.52	...	...	...	...	63	24.00	94	36.00	
	7. Barnakore	34,278	48	13.98	...	...	...	...	33	9.62	21	6.54	...	...	...	...	34	12.36	66	24.00	
	8. South Suburban	66,443	134	20.18	...	...	...	...	118	17.76	6	0.90	...	...	...	...	61	21.00	104	36.36	
	9. Kharda South Bar- ackpore.	56,647	70	12.35	...	...	...	...	46	16.48	12	3.90	...	...	...	...	153	26.24	170	29.28	
	10. Mathali	59,724	71	11.89	...	...	...	...	95	15.90	5	0.84	...	...	...	...	70	23.52	139	46.68	
	11. Nayabganj or North Barnackpore.	20,660	29	13.98	...	...	...	...	69	33.36	10	3.04	...	...	...	...	117	47.16	189	61.96	
Calcutta	12. Calcutta	661,500	1,310	20.04	117	1.76	...	...	694	10.49	299	4.53	...	...	...	...	98	54.24	115	65.76	
Nadia	13. Nadia	30,437	46	15.03	1	3.6	...	...	46	15.03	2	6.54	...	...	...	...	13	37.80	2,363	41.59	
Murshidabad	14. Murshidabad	35,676	71	19.64	...	...	...	...	68	19.30	1	3.6	...	...	...	...	13	29.16	193	61.24	
Rajshahi	15. Rajshahi	37,016	60	16.21	...	...	...	...	87	23.56	...	3.6	...	...	...	...	13	26.40	165	45.64	
Pabna	16. Pabna	32,977	45	13.70	...	...	...	...	64	19.44	...	5.59	...	...	...	...	20	43.20	168	51.28	
Dacca	17. Dacca	32,821	45	13.70	...	...	...	...	67	20.34	...	4.08	...	...	...	...	30	45.36	97	49.44	
Chittagong	18. Chittagong	32,821	45	13.70	...	...	...	...	59	18.28	...	4.08	...	...	...	...	71	40.68	89	30.36	
Onitigong	19. Onitigong	32,821	45	13.70	...	...	...	...	59	18.28	...	4.08	...	...	...	...	4	40.68	273	83.60	
Patus	20. Patus	32,821	45	13.70	...	...	...	...	55	16.78	...	3.72	...	...	...	...	37	23.40	483	148.84	
Gaya	21. Gaya	44,419	122	27.45	...	...	...	...	182	41.20	60	13.56	...	...	...	...	131	29.88	151	34.84	
Shahabad	22. Shahabad	60,885	132	21.79	...	...	...	...	73	12.24	3	0.72	...	...	...	...	100	27.00	180	36.00	
Baran	23. Baran	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Champanin	24. Champanin	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Muzaffarpur	25. Muzaffarpur	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Darbhanga	26. Darbhanga	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Monghyr	27. Monghyr	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Wazirpur	28. Wazirpur	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Cuttack	29. Cuttack	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Balassore	30. Balassore	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Puri	31. Puri	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
Lohardaga	32. Lohardaga	22,715	213	93.33	...	...	...	...	122	54.00	15	6.75	...	...	...	...	131	59.39	180	81.00	
	Total of all towns with a population of 20,000 and over.	2,329,821	5,674	24.38	220	1.08	...	...	3,498	17.88	791	3.46	73	...	...	...	6,367	39.64	6,369	27.60	
	Average of the corre- sponding month of pre- vious five years.	...	...	26.76	410	1.04	...	...	3,093	13.84	654	3.36	84	...	...	...	6,368	27.60	...	...
	Difference + or -	...	...	+1.99	-100	-96	...	...	+385	+9.04	+137	+90	+19	...	...	...	+989	+5.04	...	...

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR BENGAL,

The 18th February 1897.

H. J. DYSON, Surgeon-Captain, F.R.C.S.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1896-97.

Areas leased for irrigation up to end of December 1896.

CIRCLE.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation up to the same date last year.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED.										Rainfall, 1896-97.		REMARKS.	
								Long-term leases.					Season leases.					GRAND TOTAL.	Up to During end of month, month.		Up to end of month, month.
								Kharif.	Rabi.	Bugarcana.	Bhadol.	Hot-weather.	Total.								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
OXFORD.	Outlook	Taldanda, 1st reach	1,342	109	18,138	9,884	10,087	Acres.	8,107	Acres.	8	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	8,115	18,153	Inches.	53.15	Inches.	68.35	
		Ditto, 2nd "	566	41	33,080	15,903	15,135	Acres.	17,823	Acres.	83	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	17,836	35,041	Inches.	40.98	Inches.	63.35	
		Machgaon	776	68	52,002	46,497	47,363	Acres.	8,826	Acres.	23	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	8,828	63,191	Inches.	54.22	Inches.	68.44	
		Kendrapara	1,067	205	2,983	1,963	1,713	Acres.	1,713	Acres.	224	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	1,936	3,148	Inches.	45.21	Inches.	49.67	
		Gobri	373	66	3,496	1,036	1,036	Acres.	2,468	Acres.	224	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	2,498	3,523	Inches.	53.91	Inches.	70.16	
		Do. Extension	648	46	12,490	10,920	944	Acres.	2,468	Acres.	697	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	4,165	13,373	Inches.	56.06	Inches.	No gauge.	
		Paisamundi	885	94	12,490	10,920	944	Acres.	8,711	Acres.	123	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	8,637	22,890	Inches.	38.19	Inches.	76.10	
		High Level, Range I	608	94	12,367	14,255	14,043	Acres.	6,711	Acres.	123	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	6,837	22,890	Inches.	48.72	Inches.	51.75	
		Ditto, do. II	737	139	1,886	976	353	Acres.	1,611	Acres.	2	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	1,611	1,964	Inches.	48.73	Inches.	No gauge.	
		Jajpur Canal	706	31	16,147	9,449	9,449	Acres.	8,048	Acres.	2	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	10,371	10,371	Inches.	59.67	Inches.	71.97	
OXFORD.	Bahore	High Level, Range III	737	31	24,617	9,449	9,449	Acres.	16,074	Acres.	206	Acres.	Acres.	17,379	24,903	Inches.	57.83	Inches.	63.69		
		Total	...	...	189,890	115,686	106,608	Acres.	76,034	Acres.	1,653	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	76,070	194,638	Inches.	...	Inches.	...	
		Total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SOUTH-WESTERN.	Midnapore	Midnapore	1,431	19.41	53,619	54,674	50,296	Acres.	59,899	Acres.	444	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	59,899	117,123	Inches.	46.74	Inches.	46.76	30 days discharging.
		Panchkura	523	6.36	6,069	6,750	7,904	Acres.	7,904	Acres.	...	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	7,904	7,904	Inches.	56.80	Inches.	56.80	8 days discharging.
		Tidal Reaches, Range I & II	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SOUTH.	Shahabad	Total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Western Main	4,242	1,974	60,384	30,006	14,068	Acres.	5,651	Acres.	38,914	Acres.	60	43,516	59,312	Inches.	0.37	Inches.	0.30		
		Buxar	1,298	485	143,792	75,963	42,070	Acres.	29,165	Acres.	61,951	Acres.	161	3,303	92,599	Inches.	0.22	Inches.	0.23		
		Arrah	2,040	987	206,344	169,617	139,192	Acres.	8,621	Acres.	41,359	Acres.	4	12,569	62,148	Inches.	0.34	Inches.	0.36		
SOUTH.	Patna and Gaya.	Eastern Main	1,468	487	3,225	2,357	1,474	Acres.	1,023	Acres.	1,159	Acres.	3	2,227	4,101	Inches.	0.94	Inches.	0.96		
		Patna	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Gaya.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SOUTH.	Midnapore	Total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Grand total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Grand total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* There are no separate leases for sugarcane on the Sone Canals. All leased fields of that crop now come under one of the other heads.

CALCUTTA,

The 22nd February 1897.

O. C. LEEB,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

*Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 20th February 1897,
as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.*

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 20TH FEBRUARY 1897.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 22ND FEBRUARY 1896.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy	901	3,08,400	3,407	954	3,11,926	3,487
Jute	56	21,375	337	98	39,825	677
Firewood	96	74,435	1,098	95	54,626	795
Other articles	932	2,81,000	3,908	883	2,41,660	3,437
Total	1,985	6,65,210	8,800	2,030	5,48,036	6,326

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.
IRRIGATION OPERATIONS FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1896-97.
Areas leased for irrigation up to end of December 1896.

Circles.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation up to the same date last year.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED.										Rainfall, 1896-97.		REMARKS.		
								Long-term leases.					Season leases.					Total.	Grand Total.		During month.	Up to end of month.
								Khair.	Rabi.	Sugarcane.	Bhadol.	Hot-weather.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
OZMA	Outback	Taldanda, 1st reach	1,542	109	18,133	9,894	10,087	8,107	8	8	8	8	8	8,115	18,152	53.15	53.15	53.15	53.15			
		Ditto, 2nd "	568	41	33,080	15,903	16,186	17,833	284	284	284	284	284	17,836	33,041	53.28	53.28	53.28	53.28			
		Machgon	776	68	52,892	46,407	47,883	5,893	5	5	5	5	5	5,893	53,191	54.22	54.22	54.22	54.22			
		Kondrapara	1,067	96	52,892	46,407	47,883	5,893	5	5	5	5	5	5,893	53,191	45.21	45.21	45.21	45.21			
		Gobri	373	56	2,883	1,943	1,713	2,468	284	284	284	284	284	2,468	3,144	32.91	32.91	32.91	32.91			
		Do. Extension	646	46	3,466	1,935	1,935	2,468	284	284	284	284	284	2,468	3,523	56.06	56.06	56.06	56.06			
		Petamundi	885	96	12,490	10,920	944	3,468	697	697	697	697	697	4,155	13,273	38.19	38.19	38.19	38.19			
		High Level, Range I	608	94	21,357	14,255	14,043	8,711	183	183	183	183	183	8,897	22,880	48.72	48.72	48.72	48.72			
		Ditto	727	139	1,998	976	383	1,611	5	5	5	5	5	1,611	1,894	48.72	48.72	48.72	48.72			
		Jajpur Canal	700	139	10,147	2,372	886	9,619	5	5	5	5	5	9,683	10,371	59.67	59.67	59.67	59.67			
SOUTH-WESTERN.	Midnapore	High Level, Range III	727	31	24,617	2,960	7,316	16,674	610	610	610	610	610	17,779	24,893	57.63	57.63	57.63	57.63			
		Total	...	...	180,890	116,680	106,663	76,034	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	76,070	184,638	...	...	...	...
		Total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	110,523	151	6,011	444	...	...	...	6,096	117,128	...	...	...	...
		Midnapore	1,431	19'41	53,619	54,674	59,396	50,393	...	...	...	...	...	...	59,298	...	...	...	...	30 days discharging.
		Panchkura	823	6'08	9,099	9,730	7,904	7,904	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,904	...	...	...	...	8 days discharging.
		Tidal Reaches, Ranges I & II	...	...	60,245	65,491	68,839	68,839	...	...	...	...	...	...	68,339	...	...	...	...
		Total	...	...	...	...	68,132	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68,132	...	...	...	...
		Total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	14,064	5,681	36,914	...	...	...	...	...	45,216	...	...	...	...
		Western Main	4,342	1,024	60,354	30,065	28,105	28,105	61,914	...	...	...	...	...	61,914	...	...	...	...
		Buxar	1,358	435	143,792	70,943	46,070	46,070	41,541	...	...	...	...	...	41,541	...	...	...	...
SOUTH	Shahabad	Arrah	2,000	357	200,948	181,617	180,102	8,621	4,553	...	...	...	...	...	4,553	...	...	...	...
		Eastern Main	1,466	487	3,325	2,327	1,074	1,063	1,153	...	...	...	...	...	1,153	...	...	...	...
		Patna	...	...	98,476	66,330	38,381	21,859	15,053	...	...	...	...	...	15,053	...	...	...	...
		Patna and Gaya.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total	...	...	512,733	368,131	250,866	65,396	150,754	...	...	...	...	...	339,033	...	...	...	...
		Total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	244,040	27,476	56,796	...	...	...	...	...	97,950	...	...	...	...
		Grand total	...	...	753,868	540,296	423,983	300,761	187,417	...	...	...	...	...	317,703	...	...	...	...
		Grand total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Grand total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Grand total of the corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

O. C. LEES,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

OALOUTTA,
 The 22nd February 1897.

* There are no separate leases for sugarcane on the Sone Canal. All leased fields of that crop now come under one of the other heads.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

*Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 20th February 1897,
as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.*

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 20TH FEBRUARY 1897.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 22ND FEBRUARY 1896.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy	901	2,08,490	2,407	954	2,11,925	2,487
Jute	55	21,375	387	98	39,825	677
Firewood	95	74,435	1,098	95	54,625	795
Other articles	932	2,81,000	2,908	888	2,41,650	2,437
Total	1,983	5,55,210	2,800	2,030	5,48,025	6,396

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 13th February 1897, on 1,699.70 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	233,985	3,00,763 5 0	41,17,379 10	8,45,011 13 0	19,037 0 0	11,72,412 2 0	96,750	148,853	245,603
Or per mile of railway	.....	180 7 8	.....	497 11 11	11 8 10	689 12 5	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year	1,632,105	17,69,419 7 0	2,14,95,102 30	44,95,691 0 0	1,07,019 0 0	62,82,129 7 0	467,115	787,747	1,254,862
Total for 64 weeks	1,921,060	20,76,183 12 0	2,66,12,732 0	52,51,703 13 0	1,26,656 0 0	74,54,541 9 0	577,845	980,600	1,558,445
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	375,295	4,00,890 9 6	39,55,609 20	7,96,868 4 11	20,848 0 6	12,16,806 14 11	82,036	132,186	214,222
Or per mile of railway	.....	235 13 9	.....	468 13 3	12 4 3	716 15 8	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year	2,180,661	24,67,894 4 10	2,43,20,061 30	51,28,397 10 5	1,21,658 8 4	77,57,950 7 5	551,863	966,539	1,518,402

• The decrease is chiefly due to pilgrim traffic in the corresponding period of 1896.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 13th February 1897, on 22.23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	20,961	4,926 4 0	18,913 10	725 0 0	7 0 0	5,658 10 0	1,093	85	1,178
Or per mile of railway	.....	221 9 8	.....	32 10 1	0 5 0	254 8 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year	108,331	26,356 4 0	78,988 0	3,105 7 0	42 0 0	20,533 11 0	5,808	484	6,292
Total for 64 weeks	129,292	31,312 8 0	97,901 10	3,880 13 0	49 0 0	35,192 5 0	6,901	579	7,480
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	25,521	9,500 15 3	18,634 30	456 4 0	20 7 3	9,977 10 6	1,398	90	1,488
Or per mile of railway	.....	427 6 3	.....	20 8 5	0 14 9	449 13 5	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year	161,493	40,303 3 4	89,721 10	3,074 4 0	80 16 9	43,458 6 1	7,594	609	8,203

• The decrease is chiefly due to pilgrim traffic in the corresponding period of 1896.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 13th February 1897, on 161.40 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	14,729	11,165 7 0	60,798 10	8,638 15 0	60 0 0	19,879 6 0	6,456	3,780	10,236
Or per mile of railway	.....	69 2 10	.....	52 14 0	0 7 11	122 8 9	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year	83,989	66,509 0 0	3,42,676 20	47,890 5 0	308 0 0	1,14,691 5 0	35,144	16,935	52,079
Total for 64 weeks	98,718	77,474 7 0	4,08,892 30	55,924 4 0	442 0 0	1,31,840 11 0	41,690	20,715	62,405
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	18,636	13,488 13 6	62,080 30	8,166 5 0	44 0 0	21,699 3 3	6,427	3,155	9,582
Or per mile of railway	.....	80 9 2	.....	50 9 7	0 4 4	134 7 1	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year	122,615	85,840 10 9	4,73,390 20	58,465 2 0	337 0 0	1,44,552 13 6	43,425	21,087	64,512

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BENAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 13th February 1897 on 814 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (including ferry).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	190,530	1,07,580 0 0	678,930 0	1,04,300 0 0	4,990 0 0	2,16,870 0 0	31,720	30,785	62,505
Or per mile of railway	235	132 0 0	834 0	128 0 0	1 0 0	261 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 5 weeks of half-year	1,023,330	5,60,800 0 0	3,796,100 0	6,31,040 0 0	60,290 0 0	12,62,190 0 0	165,780	164,526	330,316
Total for 6 weeks	1,213,860	6,68,440 0 0	4,475,030 0	7,35,340 0 0	65,280 0 0	14,09,080 0 0	197,510	195,311	392,821
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year	305,921	1,07,839 0 0	817,988 0	1,29,755 0 0	8,663 0 0	2,40,483 0 0	30,469	31,000	61,469
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	363	133 0 0	1,008 0	159 0 0	1 0 0	293 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,280,021	6,96,951 0 0	4,947,038 0	8,26,093 0 0	83,330 0 0	16,12,282 0 0	203,600	201,074	404,734

* Excluding steam-boat earnings.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 13th February 1897 on 125 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	34,755	13,168 0 0	83,906 0	4,720 0 0	233 0 0	18,120 0 0	4,753	2,324	6,979
Or per mile of railway	278	106 0 0	671 0	38 0 0	2 0 0	145 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 5 weeks of half-year	181,503	68,075 0 0	3,69,455 0	22,218 0 0	711 0 0	91,004 0 0	23,083	9,630	31,673
Total for 6 weeks	216,258	81,243 0 0	4,53,361 0	26,947 0 0	936 0 0	1,09,134 0 0	28,836	11,954	39,852
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	33,308	11,897 0 0	66,788 0	4,034 0 0	75 0 0	15,706 0 0	3,888	1,800	5,688
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	266	95 0 0	534 0	32 0 0	1 0 0	126 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	216,797	77,351 0 0	4,12,167 0	24,614 0 0	1,357 0 0	1,03,282 0 0	26,781	11,682	37,433

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 13th February 1897 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	21,290	6,400 0 0	27,230 0	3,720 0 0	50 0 0	9,170 0 0	2,509	748	3,246
Or per mile of railway	247	74 0 0	317 0	39 0 0	1 0 0	107 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 5 weeks of half-year	112,030	33,020 0 0	106,020 0	11,160 0 0	860 0 0	43,040 0 0	13,397	4,119	17,426
Total for 6 weeks	133,310	39,420 0 0	133,250 0	15,880 0 0	910 0 0	52,210 0 0	15,899	4,861	20,670
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year	23,976	7,333 0 0	27,513 0	2,166 0 0	63 0 0	9,561 0 0	2,457	737	3,234
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	267	85 0 0	320 0	25 0 0	1 0 0	111 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	160,497	50,854 0 0	178,038 0	16,333 0 0	1,776 0 0	68,965 0 0	20,214	4,980	21,374

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.
(CHITTAGONG SECTION.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 6th February 1897 on 274 miles open for all descriptions of Traffic and an additional 12 miles for Goods Traffic only.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	18,137	10,702 0 0	2,04,884 0	2,015 0 0	804 0 0	20,521 0 0	2,517	7,480	100,007
Or per mile of railway ...	66.19	39.08 0 0	718.58 0	21.52 0 0	2.92 0 0	75.00 0 0	12.83	28.15	35.78
For previous 47 weeks of half-year ...	78,072	42,226 0 0	8,40,062 0	36,980 0 0	1,847 0 0	51,713 0 0	10,023	27,298	43,921
Total for 54 weeks ...	96,209	52,926 0 0	10,44,966 0	45,954 0 0	2,411 0 0	1,03,226 0 0	20,140	34,778	64,918
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	24,096	21,611 7 10	1,81,265 0	2,648 5 0	105 12 0	26,266 8 10	2,685	2,851	7,486
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	163.48	187.65 0 0	11,55.19 0	23.20 0 0	.67 0 0	161.62 0 0	29.09	24.59	47.08
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	77,896	60,706 5 1	12,44,271 0	24,563 1 3	947 13 0	76,226 3 4	12,251	27,253	39,504

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 6TH FEBRUARY 1897.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 8TH FEBRUARY 1896.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1896 TO 6TH FEBRUARY 1897.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST JULY 1895 TO 8TH FEBRUARY 1896.			Total increase in 1897.	Total decrease in 1897.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Rs.	
286	Rs. 20,521	Rs. 75.00	157	Rs. 25,360	Rs. 161.62	286	Rs. 5,12,108	Rs. 2,931.01	157	Rs. 2,63,235	Rs. 1,680.63	Rs. 2,22,773	

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

(INCLUDES TIBHUT STATE RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 6th February 1897 on 819 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boats.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Total traffic for the week on 819 miles open ...	103,950	(a) 42,530	4,02,060	(a) 55,940	14,000	(a) 1,13,030	5,177	(b) 22,148	27,325
Or per mile of railway ...	126.02	52.30	544.17	68.30	18.17	138.77	.....	.....	.....
For previous 47 weeks of half-year ...	409,600	1,73,700	17,01,000	2,32,880	57,400	4,84,040	60,187	85,321	145,508
Total for 54 weeks ...	513,550	2,16,230	22,03,060	2,88,820	72,280	5,77,080	65,334	1,07,469	172,803
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 728 miles open ...	106,502	45,229	5,49,782	79,008	13,705	1,38,009	13,064	(c) 24,738	37,802
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	146.58	59.84	727.23	104.63	18.21	138.67	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	563,219	2,34,810	26,83,715	3,65,330	75,003	6,75,153	77,206	1,30,834	208,040

* The difference of one mile between this and the last one is due to revision of open mileage, vide Agent & Chief Engineer's No. 1,444 of 8th February 1897.
(a) The decrease is due to slack traffic.
(b) Includes 735 miles of ballast trains run on open line.
(c) " 1,956 " " " "

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate earnings for the week ending 13th February 1897 ...	Rs. 12,465	A. P. 0 0
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	Rs. 16,172	A. P. 7 10
Decrease ...	Rs. 4,807	A. P. 7 10
Receipts per mile for the week ending 13th February 1897 ...	Rs. 244	A. P. 6 7
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	Rs. 328	A. P. 13 11
Decrease ...	Rs. 84	A. P. 7 6
Receipts from 1st January to 13th February 1897 ...	Rs. 69,898	A. P. 0 0
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	Rs. 73,082	A. P. 0 0
Decrease ...	Rs. 3,184	A. P. 0 0

DISTRESS IN THE PATNA DIVISION.

No. 582 (Fam.).—The 26th February 1897.—The following are published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 581 (Fam.), dated Calcutta, the 26th February 1897.

From—M. FINUCANE, Esq., Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal,
To—The Commissioner of the Patna Division.

In acknowledging the receipt of your report No. 491 F.G., dated the 21st February 1897, with its enclosures, on relief operations in the Patna Division, for the half-month ending the 13th February, I am directed to say that the Lieutenant-Governor has perused it with much pleasure. It shows that every care and attention is being given by yourself and the Collectors to famine relief administration in every detail, with eminently satisfactory results.

2. Paragraph 45 of your report.—The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with you in thinking that Mr. Hare's observations on the necessity of having a reserve of both Charge Superintendents and Circle Officers are judicious, and the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the Collector has already made the arrangements suggested.

3. Paragraph 51 of your report.—With regard to Famine Statements D and E (Forms 5 and 7) for the district of Darbhanga, you observe that they probably do not include figures relating to the relief works under the Public Works Department. I am to draw your attention to Government order No. 434-Fam., dated the 13th February 1897, and to request that steps may be taken in future to give figures for works under the Public Works Department, as well as those under the civil officers, in the statements and accounts. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with you that from the figures abstracted in paragraph 51 of your letter it is clear that more and more control is being gained over the relief-workers, and that the rates per thousand cubic feet of earthwork now arrived at, viz. Rs. 3-1-11 and Rs. 2-12-10, are, if correct, moderate considering that many of the works are tanks.

No. 491 F.G., dated Bankipore, the 21st February 1897.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, Esq., Offg. Commissioner of the Patna Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith my famine report under sections 13 and 24 of the Famine Code for the two weeks ending 6th and 19th February 1897.

PART I.—INTRODUCTION.

2. As usual, I employed part of the interval between the dates for submission of my fortnightly reports in making a rapid tour, which on this occasion took me into the Muzaffarpur district, which I had not hitherto visited except for a few hours at a time.

3. Leaving Bankipore on the night of the 11th February, I reached Muzaffarpur in heavy rain at midnight. After discussing several matters of importance with Mr. Hare, I left again at midday and proceeded to Sitamarhi via Samastipur and Darbhanga; at Labiria Sarai Mr. Carlyle met me, and at Darbhanga Mr. Mills joined us, and I received reports from both those officers.

On Saturday, the 13th, Mr. Russell, the Subdivisional Officer, drove me to Belsand and back (14 miles south). We stopped in several villages on the road, and visited the relief works going on on the road: at Belsand I met Mr. H. Crowdy, the Manager, and Mr. Bradley (Assistant District Superintendent), the Charge Superintendent, and inspected the poor-house there, and the books and returns of the charge. On the 14th we drove to Shiuhar and back (15 miles south west). As it was Sunday there were no relief workers visible, but we stopped and made enquiries in several villages, and I checked the gratuitous lists in one village on the road. At Shiuhar I met Mr. Reily (Assistant District Superintendent) who is temporarily Charge Superintendent there, and went through his books with him besides inspecting the poor-house. After returning to Sitamarhi, I visited the local relief works and the poor house; at night Mr. Russell and I went by train to Pupri. On the 15th I inspected the relief works and poor-house at that place with the Charge Superintendent, Mr. Clair, and the Subdivisional Officer, and drove on to Rajkhand Factory (14 miles), where we were met by Mr. Hare. In the afternoon Mr. Hare and I proceeded to Muzaffarpur (17 miles) passing along the Rajkhand road, which has been and is being raised and broadened by famine labour. Leaving Muzaffarpur again at midnight of the same day I reached Motihari in the morning, and spent the whole of the 16th with the Collector over famine matters. We visited the poor-house and the chaukidari parade at the Sadar thana, and I discussed many matters with the Joint Magistrate, the District Superintendent of Police, and the Civil Surgeon. In the evening I left again for Bankipore, arriving there at 6-30 on the morning of the 17th.

4. A memorandum of my observations and conclusions with the necessary instructions has been forwarded to the Collector of Muzaffarpur.

PART II.—DISTRICT REPORTS.

5. *Patna.*—The state of this district remains excellent: the crops are good, and though some little damage from caterpillars is reported, Mr. Inglis states that if ordinary weather continues, the *rabi* will be a better crop than has been reaped for years. The harvesting of the earlier crops, such as peas, mustard and *rahar*, has begun, and gives employment to the labouring classes which will continue till the middle of March. Rain fell on the 11th and 12th, averaging half an inch all over the district, and reaching an inch at Bihar and nearly an inch and-a-half at Hilsa: as it was succeeded by fine clear weather, its effect was wholly beneficial, the crops on the threshing floors sustaining no material damage.

6. Prices are rising slightly, but private charity still supplies the wants of the pauper population, and gratuitous relief appears not to be required. A poor-house, however, is almost completed at Patna, and the District Board are building rest-houses at suitable spots along frequented routes, where shelter and a cooked meal is given to all wayfarers who choose to ask for them. The cost of the dole, as shown in Form No. 7, is very high, and the Collector has been asked to explain the figures. All relief works have been closed as such.

7. It was stated in my last report that for the first time imports had exceeded exports, the difference being 9,269 maunds: it now appears from the complete figures since received that a net addition of 16,848 maunds should have been made to the exports, turning the excess of imports to an excess of exports amounting to 7,579 maunds. During the fortnight under report the exports again exceeded the imports by 12,358 maunds, the figures being 60,678 maunds and 48,320 maunds. Two-thirds of the imports were rice, and nearly half the exports "other food-grains." The exports reported up to date from the time that reports began are more than double the imports, the figures being 4,70,796 maunds and 2,10,458 maunds. No better proof could be adduced of the general prosperity of the district.

8. *Gaya.*—Not less satisfactory is the report from this district also. An average of 1.13 inches of rain fell throughout the district; and as the dull weather was quickly succeeded by sunshine, little or no damage was done to the grain on the threshing floors, while the standing crops were greatly benefited: it is not too much to expect a full average *rabi*, or 16-anna crop. The harvesting of the earlier crops has commenced, and will give employment till the

middle of March. Prices generally are steady, but there is a rise in that of wheat.

9. The import and export traffic has been slack during the fortnight under report, the imports amounting only to 5,504 maunds and the exports to 1,695 maunds. It remains to be seen what effect the late orders sanctioning a bounty on grain exported to Palamau will have on the export trade. About 600 maunds of rice have already been exported thither. I am writing to the Collector of Gaya to ascertain from the Deputy Commissioner of Palamau what amount goes into his district from Gaya, in order that it may be noted in the Gaya reports.

10. The only kind of relief that is going on is the distribution of cooked food to travellers and others along the Grand Trunk Road at Kusa, Madanpur and Aurangabad: Madanpur is a little over 20 miles from Kusa, and Aurangabad is about 14 miles further on. About 112 persons were fed daily at Kusa and 107 at Aurangabad; the Madanpur kitchen is only just opened. All are maintained at private expense. The District Engineer has informed me in conversation that most of those relieved are people returning from Bengal, many of them in bad condition; Mr. Grierson in a private letter confirms this information, and adds that there is also a large number of people still going east from the North-Western Province, of both sexes and all ages.

11. Labour is now coming to the South Bihar Railway, and this work should provide employment throughout the summer. The Collector has not stated what has wrought this change, and he will be asked whether there has been any advance in the rates offered.

12. A large sum (Rs. 80,800) has been advanced during the current financial year under the Land Improvement Loans Act, of which Rs. 9,000 have been advanced during the fortnight under review.

13. *Shahabad.*—In my last report I stated that the Collector had found that distress was becoming acute in the Bhabhua subdivision, and was making arrangements to meet it. These arrangements have now been completed, and have been specially reported by him in his letter No 3282G. of the 14th instant, which is forwarded with the present district narrative.

14. The area affected is unaltered, save that a fresh tract is under observation, i.e., the strip of low land between the Rhotas hills and the Sone from Akbarpur to the south-western boundary of the district. Enquiries are being made here, and no definite opinion can yet be formed as to the condition

Number.	Name of charge.	Area.	Population.	Number of circles.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Ramgarh	310	93,804	5
2	Chand and Chainpur	272	1,23,123	4
3	Bhabhua and Chenari	224	1,02,119	6
4	Adhaura plateau	500	14,111	4
	Total	1,318	3,33,156	21

of the people. The remainder of the affected area has been arranged in charges and circles as shown in the marginal statement. In charges Nos. 2 and 3 the circles have been fully manned. Mr. E. C. B. Birch has been placed in charge of No 3, and Mr. D Percy Smith, who reported himself to me here yesterday, will take charge of

No. 2, which is at present under the Inspector of Police. For the Adhaura and Ramgarh charges, which are so far partially manned by Circle Officers, and where distress is not imminent, no Charge Superintendent will be appointed for the present, the Circle Officers reporting direct to the Subdivisional Officer. These arrangements have my approval. As Circle Officers began work from the 6th instant only, the returns are not yet quite complete.

15. Mr. Marindin's estimate of expenditure, received with the separate letter above quoted, is Rs. 79,727 for 1896-97 and Rs. 3,07,834 for 1897-98, or Rs. 3,87,561 in all. These figures are composed of the following items:—

	1896-97. Rs.	1897-98. Rs.	Total. Rs.
Relief works and gratuitous relief, Bhabhua subdivision and Chenari	75,727	2,99,834	3,75,561
Gratuitous relief through police elsewhere, poor-houses, &c.	4,000	8,000	12,000
Total	79,727	3,07,834	3,87,561

I hope that the expenditure will not reach this amount, and at any rate no grant from Provincial Revenues is yet required, as the District Board have sufficient funds to meet the present needs of the district. In 1873-74, when the effect of the Sone Canals was only a fraction of what it now is, and when the rice crop was 2 annas only in place of 6 annas, the total expenditure on relief works and gratuitous relief (so far as I can make out from the figures supplied by Government) was Rs. 3,82,683, of which Rs. 2,22,939 represent cash payments and Rs. 1,59,744 the value of grain at Rs. 4 a maund. These figures are exclusive of loans and of grain advances.

16. Except in the affected tract, where comparatively little *raai* is grown, the promise of the winter crops is excellent. Rain fell on the 11th and 12th instant, from about three-fourths to an inch, and a quarter all over the district, which has done little damage and much good: caterpillars are reported in some places. The price of common rice is stationary, but there has been a marked fall in the price of those food-grains which are earliest harvested, viz., wheat, grain, peas and *masur dal*.

17. There has been a shrinkage of both imports and exports, the figures being 24,895 maunds and 7,999 maunds, respectively, against 46,806 maunds and 23,647 maunds during the three weeks covered by my last report: the balance in favour of the district is, therefore, 16,896 maunds as against 23,159 maunds last reported and 15,994 maunds in the fortnight ending 9th January. The imports were nearly all rice (24,428 maunds), which came from the districts of the Burdwan Division: most of the exports were "other food grains." Buxar shows by far the heaviest traffic in imports.

18. The Collector reports that in the affected area grain stocks are said to be very low: he has appointed grain contractors in the Chainpur Chand charge under section 35 of the Famine Code. I have called his attention to the recent orders of Government sanctioning a bounty for grain imported into Palamanu, and consider that it may be necessary to apply for similar orders for the Adhaura charge later on, in order to supply the people with grain before the rains render the passes into the hills impracticable.

19. Here, as in Gaya, there are a number of poor travellers along the Grand Trunk Road, and for the relief of them a poor-house has been constructed at Sasaram, and kitchens and shelters have been opened at four places situated at convenient distances along the road. The number of persons relieved appears to have averaged 564 per diem, though this is not quite clearly stated. It is also reported that a good number of persons have left their homes in search of work; the Collector will be asked whether this is a usual incident or a novelty.

20. Four relief works were opened during the period under review. One of these, viz., the Hata-Durgaoti road, which has been opened for a long time, is now drawing to a conclusion, which accounts for the falling off in the number employed. The number of male units employed was 2,810 in the second week and 3,879 in the first, while those on daily wage irrespective of task was 2,099 to 2,267. When the Circle Officers have completed their enquiries, I hope that many of these will be relieved at their homes, and I have instructed the Collector to this effect. The outturn of work per male unit is fair, ranging from 30 to 52 cubic feet, which is doubtless due to the fact that about half the workers are of the A class. The cost per 1,000 cubic feet is also low. The average daily wage irrespective of task is higher than that of the male unit, which should not be the case unless there is a large number of special gangmen in the former. The new programme of relief works has not yet been received by me.

21. The number of persons on gratuitous relief, including those fed at the kitchens and poor-houses, appears from Form No. 6 to have been 8,229, as against 599 in the previous report; but in the body of the report the Collector states that, so far as returns have been received, they show that those on charitable relief proper were 6,972. Mr. Morindin thinks that the opening of relief circles will lead the public generally to suspend their charity all over the district. I have pointed out that it is quite impossible for Government to take over the support of the paupers all over Shahabad, and that in parts of the district where the crops have been good the well-to-do must, as in ordinary years, be left to support the pauper population.

22. *Saran.*—No material change is reported in the condition of affairs in this district, but the Collector has been on tour through the eastern portion of Gopalganj, a part of the district which he had not previously visited, and the result is that he has somewhat modified the opinions enunciated in his last report. He considers the Siwan subdivision pretty safe, but the Gopalganj subdivision will require careful attention, and later on relief will be wanted in parts of the Sadar subdivision. I consider this forecast very near the truth.

23. Crop prospects continue good; the rain of the 11th and 12th instant averaged from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch, running up to $\frac{3}{4}$ th of an inch in places: it has done, as elsewhere, no damage to the crops, and great benefit to the backward *rabi*. The latter is estimated at 16 annas in the Siwan subdivision, about 10 to 12 annas in the Sadar and the same in Gopalganj taken as a whole. Bearing in mind the energy of the cultivators and the extra area sown in *rabi* this year, I feel pretty sure that the winter crops of 1896-97 will be quite up to the full average of ordinary years.

24. No apprehension is felt as to food-stocks, and the shrinkage in the amount of imports may mean either that money is tight or that the baniya's golahs are full: Burma rice is said to be available everywhere. The figures for road, river and rail show imports 82,875 maunds against 2,00,205 maunds, and exports 10,193 maunds against 26,500 maunds in the three weeks of the previous report: the balance in favour of the district is thus 82,482 maunds, against 1,73,705 maunds in the preceding three weeks.

25. There were 27 Government relief works open during the fortnight as against 23 in the previous period. The following abstract statement gives the most important information on this head and that of gratuitous relief:—

Week ending.	Number of works open.	Daily outturn per male unit.	AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF MALE UNITS OF—			
			Task work.	Daily wage irrespective of task.	Gratuitous relief including dependents.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A.—Under Government.						
23rd January ...	24	25	8,168	731	5,836	14,734
30th " ...	23	23	9,186	917	4,486	14,618
6th February ...	27	27	10,464	781	13,560	24,805
13th " ...	27	30	6,917	1,029	13,068	21,014
B.—Under the Hutwa Raj.						
21st January ...	6	28.8	1,868	169	981	2,958
28th " ...	6	34	1,734	186	658	2,478
6th February ...	.....	31	1,803	304	604	2,711
13th " ...	.....	33	1,777	366	646	2,779

The figures show some falling off in the number on task work, due to the cutting of the *rabi* having commenced: the outturn per male unit reported in Form No. 7 is a little better than in the previous report, having been 27 and 30 cubic feet against 28, 25 and 29 cubic feet: the average earned by each male unit has been 1 anna 3 pies and 1 anna 4 pies, against 1 anna 2 pies, 1 anna 2 pies and 1 anna 3 pies. The cost per 1,000 cubic feet is Rs. 2-13, which is about the same as before. The average of the daily wage irrespective of task is still somewhat high, being 1 anna 8 pies and 1 anna 5 pies. This is, no doubt, due here, as in other places where the number of task workers is not very large, to the influence of the higher wages paid to the mates, special gangs and odd men of various kinds.

26. The total number on task work during the last week of the fortnight were men 15,842, women 22,983, big children 14,202, small children

5,300; total 58,327. The unusual proportions in this crowd of workers have been noticed and explained in previous reports. It is to be expected that the numbers will decrease still further for a time as work in the harvest field increases, but Mr. Earle is about to start new works in the Gopalganj subdivision under Public Works Department agency. One of the most important and largest of these is the excavation of more channels in connection with the Saran Canals. Mr. Buckley has lately gone up to Chapra in connection with this scheme. The above figures do not include any for works under Public Works Department agency.

27. The daily average number of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief was 14,352, and the average daily dole was about 9 pies. Seven poor-houses were open during the period under review, which fed an average of 709 persons a day.

28. *Champaran*.—The situation in this district remains unaltered, except in three particulars, i.e., a better task has been obtained, larger numbers are now on gratuitous relief instead of being on the relief works, and the Public Works Department have commenced to take over the larger works. These will be dealt with in turn.

29. The prospects of the crops continue good: the rainfall of the 11th and 12th was lighter here than in other districts, but was sufficient to freshen up the *rabi* without doing any damage whatever: the result is that the Collector is now able to forecast an average crop of *rabi* (16 annas) over the area sown. It is feared that this area is a good deal below the normal, but even so it seems safe to predict a crop equal to three-fourths of that of an ordinary year.

30. Prices are either stationary or show a tendency to fall owing partly to the importation of Burma rice. Prices are a good deal higher at out-of-the-way places. The Collector's remarks in his 8th paragraph deserve careful perusal; it would indeed be an aggravation of the present crisis if it were found that the present tightness of money prevented importation. The matter will be further considered, and, if necessary, separate proposals submitted.

31. The food-grain traffic of the fortnight has been comparatively insignificant, the imports by rail aggregating 14,351 maunds, and the exports 1,678 maunds, as against 14,745 maunds and 4,573 maunds in the previous three weeks: the result is a balance of 12,673 maunds in favour of the district, against 10,172 maunds at the end of the previous period. The imports were mostly rice and paddy from Calcutta and the Burdwan Divisions, and the exports chiefly comprised the same grains to Saran. These figures take no account of the road traffic which is still considerable, for rice is still coming in from Nepal all long the frontier, and the Saran statistics show that during the period under review 1,139 maunds passed from Champaran into Saran through Gobindganj Ghât.

32. There is no general deterioration of health. In consequence of statements made to me, I proceeded to Motihari on the 16th instant, and in company with the Collector and other officers visited the poor-house and attended the chaukidari parade. I saw a large number of persons brought in by the chaukidars, many of whom were in bad condition: a sensible proportion of these were professional beggars and cripples, and many of the others were already in receipt of gratuitous relief. They had been hitherto relieved through the police under sections 12 and 166 of the Famine Code, and it was reported that their numbers had risen very rapidly during the past fortnight. The explanation is that many of the voluntary Circle Officers have been unable to complete their lists for the reasons cited in paragraphs 5 and 25 of Mr. Macpherson's report, so that instead of the destitute and dependents being relieved in their villages, they either received aid from the police or were relieved as dependents on the works. Mr. Macpherson has been busy for some time in appointing paid Circle Officers to assist the voluntary officers where this aid seemed necessary, and the result is already apparent, as will be noticed below. Meanwhile these necessitous persons have not failed to get relief, though they may not have received it in the most suitable manner. The matter is referred to in paragraph 35 of my last report.

33. As regards relief works, the process of taking over by the Public Works Department, mentioned in my last report, has been continued in the period under review; but, for reasons mostly beyond their control, this transfer has not been carried out so rapidly as had been anticipated by too sanguine persons: by the end of the period under report only 7 works, according to the Collector, had been taken over out of 23. As matters are still in a state of transition, it is hardly fair at present to compare the results of Civil and Public Works agency.

34. Taking the works as a whole then, whether under Civil or Public Works agency, it appears that on the 13th February there were 75 works open, against 61 on that day fortnight. The following statement compares the principal figures in respect of relief works and gratuitous relief during the last and the preceding fortnight:—

Week ending.	Number of works open.	Daily outturn per male unit.	AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF MALE UNITS ON—			
			Task work.	Daily wage irrespective of task.	Gratuitous relief including dependents.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29th January ... ..	...	14	74,077	1,316	4,004	80,197
30th	61	15	74,264	1,746	4,730	80,740
6th February ... ..	...	30½	62,800	2,057	7,516	72,393
13th	75	19	67,176	2,742	15,222	85,139

These figures show a sensible improvement. The fact that most of the works are tanks, and the other considerations stated in Mr. Macpherson's 18th paragraph, fully explain, in my judgment, the apparently small outturn in the last week, and the small outturn which has been apparent throughout: they also justify the apparently high cost per 1,000 cubic feet, which for the last four weeks has been as follows: Rs. 5-14-8, Rs. 4-14-1, Rs. 2-10-6 and Rs. 4-6-1. These rates would not have been so low as they are, had not the penal wage been rigorously enforced in the attempt to restore and enforce order. According to the Collector the total number of persons on Government relief works on the 13th February was 117,539, as against 97,349 on the 30th January; but in addition to this there was a considerable, though undetermined, number on private relief works, some figures for which are given in the Collector's 20th paragraph. So far as those statistics can be relied on, the average daily number of persons on private relief works during the fortnight was 1,767. The Bettiah Raj has not yet decided on what course to pursue in order to benefit its raiyats, as the Maharani is unwell and unable to attend to business, but it is hoped that substantial aid will be given in the execution of the Tribeni Canal scheme; in the meantime a poor-house has been opened and some small works have been undertaken.

35. During the week ending 13th February as many as 19,146 persons were gratuitously relieved, against 9,925 in the previous week. These figures, and those in the statement above, show that the circle organization is being rapidly completed, and that gratuitous relief is being more largely given in villages. The Collector fully appreciates the advantages of this system which I have repeatedly brought to his notice, and I look forward to seeing the works cleared within the current fortnight of a large number of dependents and D class labourers, and the police relieved of the functions which they have been discharging as a temporary measure.

36. A poor-house has been constructed so far at Motihari only. I visited it on the 16th instant, when it contained about 70 inmates. The average for the week ending 13th February was 35. I have desired the Collector to construct a poor-house at the head-quarters of each charge without delay.

37. *Muzaffarpur*.—The chief feature in the history of this district for the first fortnight of February is a large increase in the numbers on relief works and in the receipt of gratuitous relief.

38. Crop prospects continue good, and the *rabi* ought to yield nearly three-fourths of the average outturn of the district. Mr. Hare reports that in Hajipur the area sown is 25 per cent. in excess of the normal; and though this is not the case throughout the district, especially in the north, yet I am confident that there is a general excess which will compensate to some extent for some failures. I noticed during my trip through Sitamarhi that the crop, though healthy, is backward; but towards the north of the Division the *rabi* is always later than it is to the south. The rainfall ranged from 1.42 of an inch at Shiuhar in the Sitamarhi subdivision to .32 in Sitamarhi itself. On the average, half an inch fell all over the district, and did no damage and much good to the backward crops.

39. Prices are practically stationary; and as Mr. Hare points out, the hardness of prices indicates a sufficiency of food-stocks.

40. The imports are 52,939 maunds and the exports 5,308 maunds, as against 55,935 maunds and 11,111 maunds for the previous three weeks: this shows a distinct advance, and the balance in favour of the district for the fortnight is 47,631 maunds, as against 44,824 maunds for the previous three weeks. Rice and paddy provide just half the total imports, and 20,082 maunds, or almost all the remainder, were "other food-grains." Rather less than half of the exports come under the same head.

41. The number of relief works has increased from 23 to 36, but the figures for 33 only are given in Form No. 5. The following abstract taken from Form No. 7 gives the principal figures for the past and previous fortnight:—

Week ending.	Number of works open.	Average daily outturn in cubic feet.	AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF MALE UNITS ON—			
			Task work.	Daily wage irrespective of task.	Gratuitous relief, including dependents.	TOTAL.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23rd January ...	23	80	4,728	184	4,291	9,198
30th " ...	22	76	7,981	217	19.8	10,176
6th February ...	29	82.13	16,982	474	12,376	29,834
13th " ...	33	80.58	16,727	680	14,189	31,546

It will be observed that the numbers on relief works have increased cent. per cent., while those in the receipt of gratuitous relief have increased in a much larger proportion. This is as it should be, for, so long as the helpless and dependents are assisted, the general population can afford to wait a little longer before they seek the relief works. The outturn per male unit is extraordinarily high, but I have satisfied myself in my tour through Sitamarhi that the measurements are correct, and that the recorded task is really done. I found several instances where particular gangs had done more than 100 cubic feet per male unit. One explanation is that the proportion of adult males to others is very large, and another that all the work that I saw, and most of the work in the district, is road work, with short lead and lift and very light soil. The Collector and his subordinates have from the first insisted on a fair task being done, and the result shows that the task can be done and a fair wage obtained, if the labourers only try: a good many have been deterred, I think, by the fact that little or no concession was made (in Sitamarhi at any rate) when labourers first came to the works. I am of opinion that more relief through the medium of works is needed, and I have asked the Collector to open several large works under Public Works Department agency: a letter, later than his report, informs me that 9 works, each capable of employing 6,000

persons, will be opened by the 1st proximo. These works will be conducted strictly on the principles of the Public Works Department Resolution No. 420M.P.I.; and as they have been started after sufficient notice, they should afford most important evidence as to the popularity and efficiency of that system.

42. From what I saw on my tour, I considered that gratuitous relief should be somewhat more liberally granted, and I am glad to see from the present returns that my instructions to that effect have already been anticipated.

43. The list appended to Mr. Hare's tables shows that the Darbhanga Raj relief works in the Parihar Circle employed an average of 758 persons, or 693 male units, during the fortnight: about three-fourths of these were men.

44. On behalf of Government five poor houses are now open, all in Sitamarhi, except that at Muzaffarpur; one will shortly be opened at Hajipur. I visited all the four in the Sitamarhi subdivision, and found the arrangements good, except that Medical Officers are badly wanted: they have been applied for. The average daily number of inmates has not been stated, but it is about 50. The Darbhanga Raj poor-house at Parihar had a daily average number of 211.

45. Mr. Hare reports that he requires assistance in some of his larger charges; the matter will be separately dealt with. His observations on the necessity of having a reserve of both Charge Superintendents and Circle Officers are most judicious.

46. As regards agricultural loans, I have authorized all officers to make them freely up to the limit of their existing allotments, and to report whether they wish for additional funds. The matter is further referred to below.

47. *Darbhangā*.—In this district the note of the fortnight is an apparent increase in the numbers on gratuitous relief, a more rigid control over the relief workers, and a continuation of the operation of making over large works to the Public Works Department.

48. Gentle rain fell throughout the district on the 11th and 12th instant, giving an average all round of a quarter of an inch; this was wholly beneficial, and the prospects of the *rabi* crop continue excellent. The area sown, however, is reported to be a good deal less than usual, especially in Madhubani.

49. Prices show little fluctuation. Common rice is a little cheaper in Samastipur and a little dearer in Darbhanga; Indian-corn, which is being eaten up everywhere, is a little dearer in consequence; and *rahar*, which is being harvested in the south of the district, has not yet had any effect on the market.

50. The traffic in food-grains has been brisker than in the previous three weeks, as the imports aggregate 50,591 maunds against 50,058 maunds, and the exports were 20,229 maunds against 13,266 maunds: the balance in favour of the district is, therefore, 30,362 maunds for the fortnight, as against 36,792 maunds for the previous three weeks. As usual, the majority of the imports consists of rice and paddy (15,049 and 13,107 maunds), but "other food-grains" give a total of 21,954 maunds, most of which came to Darbhanga itself, and nearly half the exports were "other food-grains."

51. There are now 93 relief works open in Darbhanga, as against 83 at the end of the previous fortnight. The following abstract gives some of the most important figures in this connection:—

Week ending.	Number of works open.	Average daily outturn of work.	AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF MALE UNITS ON—			
			Task work.	Daily wage irrespective of task.	Gratuitous relief, including dependents.	TOTAL.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3rd January	77	24.4	67,583	873	45,310	111,770
3rd "	83	20.0	80,233	2,085	45,228	145,448
11th February	93	10.8	92,345	1,346	65,641	159,331
12th "	90	22.7	77,945	2,115	70,488	150,488

* N.B.—The Collector has since written to say that by an error in compilation, there is an excess of about 20,000 in the figures 2 from Madhubani.

These figures, which are taken for the most part from Forms Nos. 5 and 7, do not altogether tally with those given in the body of Mr. Carlyle's report.

The explanation probably is that while the statements do not include Public Works Department figures, the statistics quoted by Mr. Carlyle in his paragraph III (a) probably do so. As the number of works taken over is now considerable, the omission is unfortunate, and it makes a criticism of the above figures hardly worthwhile. However, they may be taken as those of civil agency works only, and in that sense they afford ground for satisfaction: it is clear that more and more control is being regained over the workers, as is indeed definitely stated by Mr. Carlyle, and the rates per 1,000 cubic feet given in Form No. 7, viz., Rs. 3-1-11 and Rs. 2-12-10, are very low, considering that many of the works are tanks: they have of course been reduced by the vigorous enforcement of the penal wage which has, very properly, been freely used in order to coerce contumacious gangs.

52. Subject to whatever may be reported later about the mistake of 30,000 in the Madhubani figures, gratuitous relief appears to have again increased, and the daily number of persons in receipt thereof now nearly equals that of the male units on relief works: the reasons for this unusual proportion have been explained in previous reports. The increase in the past fortnight, if real, is due to the increasing pressure of high prices, and is in some respects a complement of the better figures for outturn of work on relief works. In several of the thanas of the district relief works have not been started up to the full needs of the population, and it is in these that gratuitous relief plays the chief rôle: as the full programme of relief works is worked up to, I confidently expect that not only will the absolute numbers on gratuitous relief be somewhat reduced, but their proportion to that of persons on relief works will be diminished. The Collector has, during the past fortnight, paid a visit to the head-quarters of each Charge Superintendent, and he writes that the supervision which the Charge Superintendents have found time to exercise over Circle Officers exceeded his expectations.

53. Poor houses are open at four places, but I have authorised the Collector to open one at the head-quarters of each charge for the purposes of sections III (2) and 71 of the Code.

PART III—CONCLUSION.

54. No material change in the situation has occurred during the fortnight under review, but such changes as have taken place give cause for satisfaction.

55. Prices are practically stationary. The harvesting of the early crops has fairly begun in South Bihar, and this has led to the employment of a good deal of labour in the fields which will increase in volume as the month progresses: the harvest in North Bihar is always later than in the south, so that the effect in the most affected districts is not yet so apparent; but, on the other hand, it will last later, and carry the people well on into March. It is to be observed that, on the whole, the harvest is earlier this year than usual.

56. Rain fell all over the Division on the 10th, 11th and 12th, and appears to have been heaviest in South Bihar: Darbhanga received but little. As the fall was gentle and steady, and was not accompanied by wind or hail, while it was rapidly followed by sunshine and a west wind, the effect has been most beneficial, and has still further improved the already excellent prospects of the *rabi*. The promise of the poppy continues good, especially in South Bihar. Caterpillars are reported from one or two places south of the Ganges, but no great harm has been done.

57. Another effect of the frequent light showers which we have had since Christmas is to enable the raiyats to cultivate their fields, and the extent to which this has been done everywhere is quite unusual. A very large proportion of the rice lands have already been ploughed or dug up, many of them more than once, and I am assured on all hands that this process will be repeated, so that the lands may be ready for early sowings of *bhadai* as soon as the monsoon arrives.

58. The food-grain traffic continues to be brisk, as the subjoined statement will show. The figures for Patna for the three weeks ending the 30th

January, published in my previous report, have been corrected in accordance with the Collector's present report.

DISTRICT.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		EXCESS—I. OR E.	
	Three weeks ending 30th January.	Fortnight ending 13th February.	Three weeks ending 30th January.	Fortnight ending 13th February.	Three weeks ending 30th January.	Fortnight ending 13th February.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Patna	Mds. 1,05,844	Mds. 48,470	Mds. 1,10,123	Mds. 60,403	E. 7,579	E. 11,692
Gaya	4,667	8,804	6,008	1,094	E. 1,101	I. 3,809
Shahabad	46,801	24,805	23,647	7,109	I. 23,159	I. 16,890
Saran	1,87,033	81,316	22,229	9,445	I. 1,65,404	I. 72,831
Champanan	14,745	14,351	4,578	1,676	I. 10,173	I. 12,678
Muzaffarpur	55,035	22,039	11,111	5,308	I. 44,824	I. 47,031
Darbhanga	50,038	50,591	13,260	20,229	I. 36,793	I. 3,308
Total	4,68,285	2,78,066	1,96,617	1,08,836	.....	.....

It will be seen that while in Patna the exports still exceed the imports, the balance in all the other districts is the other way, Gaya for the first time appearing as an importing district, no doubt owing to the needs of Palaman. Saran is again the largest importer, but both its total imports and net excess are less than half what they were in the previous three weeks. Remembering the difference in the duration of the period under report, the excess of imports is greater than it was for the period of my previous report in Champaran and Muzaffarpur, and about the same in Darbhanga. The total volume of trade comes to 2,78,066 maunds of imports and 1,05,856 maunds of exports, against 4,68,288 munds and 1,96,617 maunds in the previous period of three weeks. The amount of rice in maunds imported from Howrah, presumably either Burma or Orissa rice, is as follows:—Patna 9,291, Shahabad 1,544, Saran 14,314, Champaran 3,682, Muzaffarpur 4,851, Gaya and Darbhanga nil; total 33,682. Paddy was also imported from the same place in the following quantities: to Patna 704 maunds, Saran 1,761 maunds, Champaran 1,951 maunds, total 4,509 maunds.

59. Before passing on to consider the details of the administration of relief works and gratuitous relief during the past fortnight, it will be interesting to note what proportion of the population in the affected tracts is now in the receipt of relief of all kinds. The figures are given in the statement in the margin.

DISTRICT.	Numbers in receipt of relief on February 13th.	Estimated population of affected area.	Percentage receiving relief.
1	2	3	4
Shahabad	3,227	371,824	.86
Saran	83,709	1,341,598	2.51
Champaran	147,712	972,000	15.19
Muzaffarpur	26,691	1,680,000	1.6
Darbhanga	200,078	2,270,000	8.81
Total	411,417	6,615,422	6.21

Raj figures in Darbhanga, less 1,100 allowed to Muzaffarpur to represent the operations of the Raj in the Parihara Circle. Even after these corrections, however, the figures are still incomplete, as it is believed that returns from some of the Public Works Department works are not included, both in Champaran and Darbhanga. The figures in column 3 are taken from the published fortnightly reports of the District Officers.

60. It seems unlikely that the Champaran figures will rise much higher, and I trust that neither in Shahabad nor in Saran will they ever reach 5 per cent.; but it is clear that in Darbhanga, as relief works are opened out to the full in some of the thanas where gratuitous relief is now the mainstay of relief administration, the number will rise. In Muzaffarpur the numbers will certainly increase with the opening of large relief works by the Public Works Department, and it is to be observed that the figures for the affected population (taken from Mr. Haru's report of the 2nd December last) include all areas likely to be distressed up to the end of March.

61. I next give below as before an abstract statement comparing the principal items of relief administration, district by district, for the past and previous periods of report. Many of the items have already been noticed in dealing with the district reports.

District.	THREE WEEKS ENDING 30TH JANUARY 1897.								FORTNIGHT ENDING 15TH FEBRUARY 1897.							
	TASK WORK.				DAILY WAGES, IRRESPECTIVE OF TASK.				GRATUITOUS RELIEF.				TASK WORK.			
	Average daily number of male units.	Work done by each per diem.	Wages earned by each per diem.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.	Average daily number of male units.	Daily wages earned by each.	Number of adult units in receipt of gratuitous relief.	Average dole.	Average daily number of male units.	Work done by each per diem.	Wages earned by each per diem.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.	Average daily number of male units.	Daily wages earned by each.	Number of adult units in receipt of gratuitous relief.	Average dole.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		C. ft.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		C. ft.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.		A. P.		A. P.
Patna	812	72	2 4	2 0 1	18	2 8	7	2 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	87	.....
Gaya	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shahabad	1,123	24	1 7	2 15 4	386	1 7	230	1 5	857	40	1 24	2 5 8	365	1 8	.....	.....
Saran	8,169	27	1 3	2 13 4	747	1 3	4,799	0 9	8,090	24	1 34	2 13 6	1806	1 64	13,314	.....
Champanan	76,143	131	1 3	5 11 6	2,612	1 8	4,353	1 0	61,997	54	1 4	3 8 9	2,399	1 84	11,364	.....
Muzaffarpur	7,573	16	1 4	1 1 11	209	1 0	2,418	2 4	1,856	81	1 6	1 1 3	552	1 10	13,283	.....
Darbhanga	72,503	31	1 5	2 13 6	1,365	1 4	41,912	2 8	86,145	23	1 4	2 15 4	1,741	1 24	67,635	.....
Total	1,66,037	.....	.....	.....	4,347	.....	51,656	.....	176,243	.....	.....	.....	5,982	.....	1,12,031	.....

62. Turning first to task work, it will be seen that there has been a general increase in the daily number of male units employed, which is caused by the advance in Saran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga: in Patna and Gaya there are no relief works, and in Shahabad and Champaran the numbers have fallen off. There is an improvement in the outturn of work in every district except Darbhanga, and there the decrease is very slight. The improvement is greatest in Champaran. I have already remarked on the large outturn in Muzaffarpur, and pointed out that it is due to the small numbers employed and the large proportion of adult males among them. As regards average daily wage in the five districts where work has been going on, the mean is 1 anna 4 $\frac{1}{10}$ pies this fortnight, as against 1 anna 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ pies in the previous three weeks, and it will be seen that the district variations from the general mean are smaller than they were. The cost per 1,000 cubic feet is nowhere excessive; it is highest in Champaran, but there it has been reduced by nearly 38 per cent. in the fortnight, and the Collector has clearly explained that there are good reasons for the present high rate in this district: the cost is again lowest in Muzaffarpur.

63. The numbers on daily wage irrespective of task have increased everywhere, except in Shahabad. For the whole Division the ratio these bear to the task workers is 3.38 per cent., but it is much less than that in Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga, and higher in the other two districts.

64. In the matter of gratuitous relief, it will be seen that the numbers have very largely increased everywhere,—a result due partly to the completion of circle organization, partly to my admonitions, and partly, especially in Muzaffarpur and Shahabad, to some increase of distress. The percentage of numbers on gratuitous relief to the whole number relieved is as follows:—Shahabad 88.34, Saran 58.11, Champaran 14.43, Muzaffarpur 43.28, Darbhanga 43.77; whole Division 38.2. In Shahabad, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga the ratio will probably fall as relief works are more fully opened out, while in Champaran it will probably increase as the circle organization is improved and dependents are sent off the works to their villages. In Saran, for reasons previously stated, it will probably remain high throughout the operations.

65. The average dole appears to have been everywhere reduced, which is perhaps due to a majority of the new recipients of gratuitous relief being women and children. The instructions for calculating the average dole in the footnote to Form No. 7 leave something to be desired, and the matter will be looked into at once.

66. Appendix A gives the expenditure to date, so far as it can be ascertained from the financial statements supplied with each fortnightly report. It is obviously incomplete, for among other things it shows nothing spent as bounties for *kutcha* wells, whereas it has been ascertained from the reports themselves that the following sums have been spent: Champaran Rs. 522, Darbhanga Rs. 920. However, taking the figures as they stand, it appears that up to date nearly seven lakhs of rupees have been expended, of which Rs. 2,63,870 have been spent during the past fortnight.

67. As noticed in my remarks on the Muzaffarpur report, I have authorized all Collectors to grant advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act freely. My reasons for this order, and the limitations which I have imposed, are set forth in my Divisional Circular No. 9 of 1897, a copy of which I append. I have no doubt that the money is urgently wanted, and that it will be used to advantage, while nothing approaching the wholesale operations of 1873-74 will be allowed, either now or later in the season.

68. The process of taking over large works by the Public Works Department has been going steadily on. I learn from demi-official letters just received from Messrs. Mills and Toogood that the following progress has been made.

69. In Champaran, five Public Works Department subdivisions have been

Subdivision.	Name of subdivisional officer.	Number of works taken over.	New works.
1	2	3	4
Ramnagar ...	Mr. Chester	.....	.....
Bettiah ...	" Sedgely	1	2
Motihari ...	" Rooke	.....	2
Dhaka ...	Babu N. N. Mookerji	2	1
Bara ...	" R. K. Mookerji	.....	2

arranged and works opened as stated in the margin. New works are to be started as fast as the establishment is available in the Ramnagar subdivision. In view of the contraction of works now expected in Saran, I am arranging with Mr. Toogood and the Collector to transfer some of the Public Works Department establish-

ment of that district to Champaran where they are badly required. From Darbhanga Mr. Mills reports that 11 large works have been taken over in Bani-pati thana, 3 in Khajauli, 1 in Tadhuni and 1 in Phulparas. He states that practically all the needed works in North Darbhanga have now been taken over, though others will be required shortly. Mr. Mills will now take up the works in the Sadar subdivision. In Muzaffarpur, as already stated, 9 major works under Public Works Department agency will be opened on different dates during the current week.

70. It has been arranged everywhere that as the Public Works Department take over works, or open new ones, the neighbouring works under civil agency shall be closed as soon as possible. I have forwarded to the two Superintending Engineers a form of weekly progress report, showing the number of old works taken over, and new works started, in each district, and it will be submitted with effect from the current week. It is too soon yet to judge of the effect of the system laid down in Public Works Department Resolution No. 420M.P.I.: in Champaran the outturn at the outset was not altogether satisfactory, but that was certainly due, in great part, to the novelty of the experiment; from Darbhanga Mr. Mills reports that the results vary a good deal; here also a reasonable time must be allowed to elapse before a fair judgment can be formed.

71. Officers of the Public Works Department complain as bitterly as Civil officers have done of the inefficiency of many of their subordinates; this is inevitable at a season of distress such as this, and it is not till a great deal of weeding-out has been done that perfect order and efficient control will be secured.

72. The usual statements are appended.

APPENDIX A.

DISTRICT.	RELIEF WORK.				GRATUITOUS RELIEF.							MISCELLANEOUS.					GRAND TOTAL.
	Paid for task work.	Daily wages irrespective of task.	Dependents under sections 83 and 84.	Total of columns 3 and 4.	Poor-houses, &c.	Relief of artisans.	Relief by grain doles.	Relief by money doles.	Kitchens.	Miscellaneous charitable relief.	Total of columns 6 to 11.	Establishment and contingencies.	Tools and plant.	Cash and stores.	Bounties for digging wells.	Total of columns 13 to 16.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Patna	Rs. A. P. 2,191 0 1	Rs. A. P. 63 13 9	Rs. A. P. 9 8 0	Rs. A. P. 2,165 13 10	Rs. A. P. 1,466 5 0	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 76 15 3	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 76 15 3	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 3,240 13 1
Gaya	Rs. A. P. 6,500 9 1	Rs. A. P. 2,358 0 3	Rs. A. P. 9 8 0	Rs. A. P. 8,918 1 4	Rs. A. P. 1,466 5 0	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 497 3 9	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 1,916 7 9	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 10,834 9 1
Shahabad	Rs. A. P. 24,653 9 11	Rs. A. P. 2,298 10 1	Rs. A. P. 9 8 0	Rs. A. P. 26,952 4 9	Rs. A. P. 53 5 4	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 77 10 1	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 17,113 15 10	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 44,016 3 10
Baran	Rs. A. P. 2,58,897 14 4	Rs. A. P. 9,535 4 0	Rs. A. P. 5,325 3 5	Rs. A. P. 2,63,149 4 9	Rs. A. P. 16 0 3	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 16,607 7 5	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 16,623 7 8	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 2,73,894 1 9
Chhapra	Rs. A. P. 2,58,897 14 4	Rs. A. P. 9,535 4 0	Rs. A. P. 5,325 3 5	Rs. A. P. 2,63,149 4 9	Rs. A. P. 16 0 3	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 16,607 7 5	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 16,623 7 8	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 2,73,894 1 9
Muzaffarpur	Rs. A. P. 33,547 11 9	Rs. A. P. 1,493 0 3	Rs. A. P. 32 10 3	Rs. A. P. 34,063 6 3	Rs. A. P. 189 12 1	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 29,885 2 6	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 23,757 15 0	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 3,39,657 11 6
Darbhanga	Rs. A. P. 2,62,500 1 6	Rs. A. P. 2,014 6 3	Rs. A. P. 387 12 6	Rs. A. P. 2,67,911 5 3	Rs. A. P. 3 5 0	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 50,034 11 3	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 97,595 6 4	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 5,69,703 8 4
Total	Rs. A. P. 5,00,979 14 8	Rs. A. P. 21,043 2 6	Rs. A. P. 5,775 2 3	Rs. A. P. 5,94,097 3 4	Rs. A. P. 1,716 12 6	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.

J A BOURDILLON,

PATNA COMM. 'S OFFICE, BANKIPOR,

The 21st February 1897.

J. A. BOURDILLON,
Offg. Commissioner.

APPENDIX B.

FAMINE CIRCULAR No. 9 of 1897.

Dated Bankipore, the 16th February 1897.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, Esq., Offg. Commissioner of the Patna Division,
To—The Collector of

HITHERTO it has been the policy of most Collectors in the distressed districts in the Division to abstain from granting advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act for the present in the belief that any money advanced now would not be applied to the purpose for which it was ostensibly granted, but merely to maintenance.

2. From enquiries made in several districts, however, I am satisfied that during the present year a great deal of land has been cultivated much earlier than usual, and that after the showers which have fallen, and in anticipation of an early monsoon, a good deal of cultivation would be done if the raiyats and small farmers could afford to pay for it.

3. In these circumstances, I consider that it would be better to make some advances now than to withhold them altogether till April and May, and therefore authorize you, if you think proper, to make advances freely under the Act subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) The agreements for repayment to be joint and several.
- (b) Not more than Rs. 4 a bigha to be advanced up to a maximum of Rs. 50 to any one person.
- (c) Not more than half to be advanced now.
- (d) A definite date to be fixed when the remainder is to be advanced.

4. The allotment at present made to your district is stated in the margin. You may advance up to that amount. Please state what further amount, if any, you will require to advance before the 31st March next and how much during 1897-98.

	Ra.
Shahabad	29,000
Saran	34,000
Champaran	11,000
Munaffarpur	28,000
Darbhanga	10,000

5. It is understood of course that these advances are made under the Act, and that they are entirely separate from the special advances for the purchase of grain alluded to in

paragraph 13 of Government Resolution No. 5133 of the 10th December 1896, as well as from those for village improvements dealt with in paragraph 19 of the same Resolution.

No. 243F, dated Camp Ratna, the 16th—18th February 1897.

From—W. B. OLDHAM, Esq., Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division and Sonthal Parganas,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

In continuation of my No. 292R.Ct., dated Bardaha, the 1st—2nd February 1897, I have the honour to forward, under section 9 of the Famine Code, the accompanying copy of extracts from a report submitted under section 10 by the Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas with his No. 4549R., dated the 26th January 1897. Though so dated, it was not received in my office till the 13th February, or by me till yesterday, and appears to have been despatched on the 12th February. The chief object in forwarding the extracts to Government is to confirm the estimates for the Sonthal Parganas submitted under my No. 3395R., dated the 11th January 1897, and to prepare for the grants being appropriated. The omitted portions refer either to information already reported by me to Government, or to contentious matter, and this editing is necessary, if only for the reason that copying has become a very heavy item in my office. I do not forward the map referred to in the Deputy Commissioner's 12th paragraph, because it does not give the information which it is intended to convey. I have reproduced the reference to turnpikes in paragraph 17, but do not at this juncture endorse the views expressed. The passage indicates the character of some of the matter omitted. The final sentence about establishment refers to the restoration of the district staff, which has lately been drawn on, to its former strength, and not to any more definite proposals. The staff at present is ample.

No. 4549R., dated Camp Hiranpur, the 26th January 1897.

From—R. CARSTAIRS, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas,
To—The Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas, Bhagalpur.

I HAVE the honour to report, under the provisions of section 10 (Chapter II) of the Famine Code, that scarcity prevails in this district, and that distress is imminent in certain

parts of it. The parts in which there is more immediate fear are Godda and Jamtara, of which the former is nearest famine. In this report I propose to declare a part of the Godda subdivision to be an affected tract.

2.
3.
Crops, such as mustard, *kurthi*, and the like, have been in most places a failure

5. (b) *Area and population likely to be affected.*—The total area of Godda subdivision is likely to be affected, that is, 957 square miles with a population of 385,000. Out of this the area more immediately affected is the southern part of the subdivision, having an area of 331 square miles and a population of 102,800. This last area, comprising tappas Passaye and Belbathan, and the southern end of the part of the Damin-i-koh estate, which lies in Godda, I propose to declare an affected tract.

(2) *Character of communications in the affected area.*—No part of the area is touched by the railway, and it has no navigable waterway.

There are no metalled or fully bridged roads within its area. It communicates by means of roads, passable in the dry season, but nearly all more or less impassable by reason of hill streams and bad surface in the rains, with the railway stations of Bhagalpur, Ghaga, Pirpointi, Tinpahar, Kotalpukur, and Pakaur on the loop line, and with Deoghur on the chord line, and towards the south with Dumka and Suri. Internally it is provided with unmetalled and unbridged roads (a few small bridges and culverts have been built) giving access to almost every part of it, but little used in the rainy season.

(c) *Condition of grain stocks.*—The enquiry ordered by Government into the condition of grain stocks was made, but gave no trustworthy results. If we are to accept its results—no one has any stock at all. Traders will not reveal the state of their resources, nor will producers, and we are obliged, therefore, to fall back on our knowledge of the general conditions of local business.

In making his estimate Mr. Piffard has excluded the Paharia population, numbering some 23,000, on the ground that their crops of *bajra* and *bhadoi*, on which they depend, have been abundant. They may need help, being in the habit of coming down for employment to the valleys and of selling firewood, but their case is not urgent.

6. At a recent conference held at Dumka with my Subdivisional Officers, we determined that a reasonable estimate for average outturn of crops was—

	Per acre.
	Mds.
Winter rice	... 12 cleaned rice.
Second crop on this land (1st and 2nd class only)	... 4 grain.
Bhadoi	... 10 grain of all sorts.
Second crop	... 5
„ class bari land (chiefly <i>kurthi</i> and <i>rahar</i>)	... 4½

Mr. Piffard accepted these figures, which are in some cases higher than those he gave originally. I give in a table below a calculation of the outturn in a normal and in the year of all crops. They include oilseeds and other non-edible crops, which can be sold for rent and other purposes. They do not include mohwa and fruit.

I have calculated the value of an acre of first class, second class, and third class winter rice land for the purpose of determining average outturn at 3½, 2, and 1, respectively, since it would not be right to take an acre of the latter as of equal importance with an acre of the first in producing food. The proportion takes into account short cultivation

7. The figures are as follows:—

Winter rice.

CIRCLE.	Normal area.	Outturn.	Proportion saved.	Outturn.
1	2	3	4	5
	Aores.	Mds.		Mds.
Godda	44,500	5,14,000	9 annas	2,89,000
Mahagama	32,100	3,91,700	9 „	2,20,000
Poraya	24,200	2,90,400	5½ „	1,00,000
Damin-i-koh, excluding hills	21,600	2,49,700	9 „	1,40,000
Total	1,22,900	14,45,800	8½ annas	7,49,000

Second crop, Winter rice land.

CIRCLE.	Area.	Outturn.	Proportion saved.	This year's outturn.
1	2	3	4	5
	Acres.	Mds.		
Godda	25,300	1,01,200	8 annas	50,600
Mahagama	23,600	94,400	8 "	47,200
Poraya	12,700	50,800	6 "	19,000
Damin-i-koh	13,000	52,000	8 "	26,000
Total ...	74,600	3,08,400	7½ annas	1,42,800

Phadoi.

Godda	10,200	1,02,000	10 annas	63,800
Mahagama	8,000	80,000	10 "	50,000
Poraya	6,200	62,000	8 "	31,000
Damin-i-koh	13,000	1,30,000	10 "	81,000
Total ...	37,400	3,74,000	9½ annas	2,26,800

Second crop on Biadoi land.

CIRCLE.	Area.	Outturn.	Proportion saved.	This year's outturn.
1	2	3	4	5
	Acres.	Mds.		
Godda	10,200	51,000	6 annas	19,000
Mahagama	8,000	40,000	6 "	15,000
Poraya	6,200	31,000	4 "	7,750
Damin-i-koh	13,000	65,000	6 "	24,000
Total ...	37,400	1,87,000	5½ annas	65,750

Rahar, Kurthi, &c.

Godda	20,000	90,000	4 annas	22,500
Mahagama	14,000	64,300	4 "	16,000
Poraya	26,400	1,18,800	4 "	29,700
Damin-i-koh	29,000	1,33,500	4 "	32,400
Total ...	89,700	4,03,600	4 annas	1,00,600

These figures condensed give the following result:—

Circle.	Normal outturn.		Outturn this year.	
		Mds.		Mds.
Godda	8,58,200		4,44,900
Mahagama	6,70,400		3,48,200
Poraya	5,53,000		1,87,450
Damin-i-koh	6,27,200		3,03,400
Total	...	27,08,800		12,83,950

The Poraya circle is thus singled out as the worst, having an outturn of about 34 per cent. of the normal, as against about 47 for the subdivision. The cold-weather crops were merely estimated. The facts about *bhadoi* and winter rice are known.

8. The grain calculated by Mr. Piffard to be necessary to feed the population is 10 chitaks per head. This would make the supply necessary for a whole year about 20,00,000 maunds, so that the normal outturn estimated agrees with probabilities. If these figures are correct, there is a deficiency of food-supply for the subdivision of rather over 7,00,000 maunds, without reckoning rent and other expenses to be met and exports. We know that large exports have been and are going on. This calculation does not take account of mohwa, which is reckoned to give, if the crop succeeds, a full month's supply of food for the Sonthals, nor of such produce as lac and tusser, whose export help to bring something into the district, nor of the annual temporary emigration in search of work which reduces the number of mouths to be filled, and brings a little something, i.e., from without. Where there is so much that must be little more than guess work, it would be rash to build too much either way on figures. Mr. Piffard's estimates of the proportion of crops saved are, however, the best he can make after very careful enquiry, and I so far accept them as to say the prospects disclosed are very serious and warn us to be fully on our guard.

9. Coming to the area of scarcity, I find that the population is 102,000, and the supply needed to support them for eight months, that is, up to the beginning of the *bhadoi* harvest, at 10 chitaks per head daily, is 3,84,000 maunds of grain.

The outturn for this area is—

CROP.		Area.	Normal outturn.	Proportion.	Outturn this year.
1		2	3	4	5
		Ares.	Mds.		Mds.
Winter rice ...	...	39,100	4,68,200	5 annas	1,46,300
Second crop ...	...	21,800	87,200	5 "	27,000
Bhadoi ...	...	13,050	1,30,500	8 "	65,200
Second crop ...	...	13,050	65,250	4 "	16,300
Kurthi, &c. ...	...	41,200	1,85,400	4 "	46,300
Total	...	.....	9,36,550	.....	3,01,100

* This is inconsistent with the figures given above (Mr. Piffard's), but as he did not give separate statistics for the tract under report in detail, I have made this calculation for myself. I think his was wrong.

R. C.—26-1-97.

The population of this area is (excluding Paharias about 10,000 souls) about 114,000,* and the grain necessary to support them for a day is 1,781 maunds, or for a year 6,50,000 maunds. Supposing the above calculation to be right, the following is the time the produce of this season's crops would last:—

Bhadoi crops	...	about 36 days.
Winter rice	"	82 "
Second crop of bhadoi	"	9 "
Kurthi, &c.	"	26 "
Second crop, winter rice	"	15 "
Total		168 "

There is in addition the stock of grain over from last harvest, amounting, according to Mr. Piffard's estimate in November, to about 60,000 maunds, or a supply for about 38 days. Of the above supplies, no part but the *bhadoi* crop was available before the end of December, and thus we may calculate that at that time there was a supply available locally, supposing none was exported, for 132 days at least, or, since it is quite certain this year's maize was not all consumed by the end of December, we can put it at not less than 150 days. The old stock was probably understated at 60,000 maunds, but taking it at that, we had at the end of December probable supplies for 183 days, or up to the end of June. Besides this, we may calculate that the Sonthals, who form about half the population of the distressed area, would get a month's food from mohwa, and a fair amount of miscellaneous supplies from the forest, especially in the rains. There is likely to be a certain amount of emigration also in search of work, of which the ordinary emigrant for a few months only is not likely to meet with so much success as usual.

10. I should be inclined to let the stock mohwa and savings from emigration go to balance the loss by export. They are all uncertain items; in fact everything in the calculation is uncertain, being the best guess we can make, and this gives us a local supply for 150 days, or 5 months, up to about the end of May, leaving three months, June, July, and August, to be provided for. The stock of grain will not be equally divided, some raiyats having enough and something over, the traders having some, and many raiyats having none at all. We have calculated that there may be a beginning of pinching at any time, and that it will probably become serious from the 1st of April onward.

11. (d) *Sources of supply*.—As we cannot in any way check the coming and going of supplies, I propose to leave this question to be dealt with solely by trade. In order to attract prompt supplies in out of the way places, where necessary, we should be prepared to make small preliminary advances to enable traders to move their stocks, but, as I understand, the question of where supplies are to come from is not to be our concern at all.

* My No. 283R., dated the 22nd January 1897.

W. OLDHAM.

12. (e) *Proposed measures of relief*.—In my No. 4192 R.* of the 16th January 1897, I have explained what system of relief measures we propose to adopt.

It is not proposed to open within the circles kitchens or poor-houses, or to form lines for workers, but we should have a hospital and dispensary at a central point, Poraya, where the outpost is, and a hospital assistant in charge. All cases of sickness should at once be conveyed there or to Godda. If the distress is severe, we shall need a second hospital and dispensary on the east side of the tract. Chandna in the Damin-i-koh is a suitable point. The buildings need only be temporary, and need not be erected until they are wanted. It may be preferable to hire quarters. The Chandna bungalow has good out-houses.

The Subdivisional Officer, Mr. Piffard, has got his plans and estimates for relief works in working order. The people likely to come to the work have their own tools, but we have ordered, in addition to the reserve stock of tools which we already have, such reserve of hoes, picks, and stone-hammers as we think necessary. Mr. Piffard has been of great help both in working out a system of relief better suited to our needs than the more elaborate and costly Bihar system, and in making all the practical arrangements. His set of maps which he has prepared gives us a much more accurate and detailed knowledge of facts regarding villages and populations as they are than we should otherwise have obtained. I think all is ready to begin when necessary in the area indicated. The enclosed map shows where it is and what are leading roads outside and within it.

13. (f) *Estimate of expenditure likely to be incurred and the local sources from which it can be met*.—I see in your report to Government No. 278R., of 1st January, you have correctly stated that we have in this district very small public resources from which to meet the expense of any extra work such as relief. There is no road or Public Works cess, and Government has not made over to us for local expenditure the pound and ferry receipts. The Government grant for roads, which is for the whole district, is spent mainly on repairs and establishment charges, and it is impossible, in view of the anticipated development of distress in almost every part of the district, to propose to concentrate it on this one spot. Within the Godda subdivision itself expenditure will have to be incurred after the 1st April, and I am receiving claims from nearly every other part of the district for more expenditure to give employment to those in distress.

14. There are sources from which I have hopes, although I cannot reckon on them as I could on funds actually under my control.

In the first place there is the liberality of the local landlords, on whom the moral obligation of spending money for the relief of their people is all the greater on account of the absence of local taxation, and of local well-to-do tenants for the same reason. The greater part of the affected area now under report is tuppa Passye in the Lachmipur estate, and the manager, Mr. Braidwood, has already arranged for the opening of works wherever needed. I am not sure what he proposes to spend, but he will spend liberally. The greater part of the remainder is in the Government estate Damin-i-koh, and I hope that Government will not be backward in setting a good example to other landlords, and will, if necessary, increase its grants for estate improvement. The balance of the area is Belbathan, a long narrow strip between these two, whose people will be able to do a little, but not much, for themselves, but will be benefited by any work done in the neighbourhood. The proposed opening of the works for the projected Bousi Railway would be a help to the western

(Passye) side, but not to so great an extent as it would have been had the original line by Nonimat been adhered to. The line, as I understand, will now run direct from Bousi to Deoghur, leaving Passye some distance to the west.

I have also hopes that there will be some relief by means of emigration to a distance. The temporary crop-cutting expeditions have not been so productive as usual, many having come back empty-handed.

Where all is so uncertain, I can make no useful estimate, and can only repeat that which I have already submitted in answer to Government's order, in its No. 79 Agri. of the 31st December 1896, and your No. 8328R. of the 6th January 1897.

This for Godda subdivision is Rs. 1,50,000, and for the whole district Rs. 3,11,200, of which Rs. 6,200 is to be spent in 1896-97 and Rs. 3,05,000 in 1897-98.

15. (g) *Any other matter necessary for the information of Government.*—As has been already reported to you, and by you to Government, the area most likely to be affected next to Godda is Jamtara. There will be distress in all parts of the district, more or less, owing to the high prices, but it has not manifested itself as yet. I observe considerable activity among the agriculturists in their usual engineering works of improving levels and making small reservoirs and reclaiming hollows, and I have already received promises from a number of local proprietors, among whom may be mentioned Raja Ram Ranjan Chakrabarti Bahadur,

of Hetampore; Rai Kamaleswari Prasad Bahadur, proprietor of Belpatta; Mr. Braidwood Manager of Hendwai and of Lachmipur estate, parts of which lie in the subdivisions of Godda, Dumka and Deoghur; Mrs. Maling Grant, who owns land in Dumka and Deoghur; the zamindars of Patsauda in Godda; Babu Dariao Lal, Ghatwal of Suruth; Babu Ram Charan Sing, Ghatwal of Bamongraon; the Manager of the Bancili estate, part of which is in Godda; the Ghatwal of Marraro in Jamtara, that they will spend money in giving employment. The Sankara, Rohini, Punasi and Narainpur estates are under the Court of Wards, and we are arranging for expenditure when needed. The zamindar of Pahia proposes to give help mainly by allowing facilities to private persons for making improvements in the shape of tanks and bunds. The largest proprietor in the district is Government, to whom I am addressing a separate report on the subject of improvements in Government estates.

16. In the Pakaur subdivision the situation is peculiar, owing to trouble in connection with the recent settlement of Ambar and Sultanabad. The Sonthal raiyats in those estates are, partly from the evil advice and threats of agitators, and partly from legitimate grievances, in an uneasy frame of mind, which has partially spread to the adjoining part of the Damini-koh estate of Government. The community system is strongly developed among them, and they consequently object to the interference of the kanungo, even when that is to take measurements and make plans for relief works. They look on it as an invasion on their privacy, and having just had a course of settlement suits, they decline any further interference, saying they do not want bunds. In this subdivision there is no great likelihood that relief works on a large scale will be needed, the only parts reported as distressed being a few villages on the east side. I am therefore instructing the Subdivisional Officer to make up his precautionary relief programme, which is not likely to be needed this year, by projects for raising the local roads a foot or two. Pakaur is sore at present, and needs delicate handling.

17. As will be seen from the above report, I am in hopes that while the unexpected may always happen, and has been prepared for as far as possible, the district will probably get on without formal relief measures, except perhaps in the south of Godda and in the north-west of Jamtara. The extension of section 84 of the Tenancy Act proposed in my No. 697R., of the 2nd June 1891, would in my opinion be of the utmost use to us this year, as being likely to stimulate works of local improvement, which have been considerably impeded by the want of such a provision. Our resources would also be materially strengthened if the permission asked for in my No. 411P.-W., of the 5th September 1896, to establish turnpikes on the Dumka-Kampur Hat road were granted, and the same permission extended to our other expensive roads, namely, the Suri-Bhagalpur and the Dumka-Deoghur roads.

It may be said that this is a bad year to place impediments in the way of traffic. On the contrary, I think that to make the road self-supporting would be rather to withdraw a bounty than to impose a tax. While it is our duty not to put needless obstacles in the way of traffic, it is as little our duty to stimulate by maintaining free roads the exports of grain from the district, which, in the opinion of many, is going on to an excessive extent.

As executive orders only are needed to give effect to those proposals, and their effect would be almost immediate, I hope that even in this busy year time will be found to pass orders.

18. I began this report meaning to keep it ready until the result of Mr. Piffard's test works should be known. I think, however, that I ought to submit it to you at once, that you may be in possession of the views and information it contains. I have endeavoured to work out the information of Godda subdivision first, that being most urgent. I shall try to complete the information for the rest of the district by degrees, and submit it as it is ready. I do not expect any extensive operations in any case before the beginning of April, and think that with loans and useful private and public works, it may be possible in almost all parts to stave off the necessity for declaring famine at all. I submit my report chiefly on account of establishment.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1897.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

[Non Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.]

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
Scheme for the supply of filtered water to the Town of Berhampore	657	Exports of food-grains by the East Indian Railway	665
Distress in the Presidency, Chota Nagpur and other Divisions except the Patna Division	659	Weather and Crop Report for the week ending the 1st March 1897	669
Oilseed Crops in Bengal	663	Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 21st to 27th February 1897	705
Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta	675	Results of the Barometrical and Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee from 21st to 27th February 1897	706
Statistics of the Sea-Borne Traffic of Calcutta in Food-grains	676	Circular and Eastern Calendar for the week ending Saturday, the 27th February 1897	706
Statistics of the Sea-Borne Traffic of the minor ports in Bengal in Food-Grains	681	Weekly return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways	707

SCHEME FOR THE SUPPLY OF FILTERED WATER TO THE TOWN OF BERHAMPORE.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.—MUNICIPAL.

Calcutta, the 2nd March 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 1158M.

READ—

A letter from Sanitary Board, No. 478.B., dated the 4th February 1897, submitting, for the sanction of Government, plans and estimates for a scheme for the supply of filtered water to the town of Berhampore, together with a letter No. 54M., dated the 20th January 1897, and its enclosures, from the Commissioner of the Presidency Division on the subject.

Read also—

The previous correspondence regarding the water-supply scheme.

In April 1894 the Municipal Commissioners of Berhampore expressed a desire to improve the water-supply of their town, and instructions were issued by the Sanitary Board for the preparation of a scheme, with an approximate estimate of the cost of carrying it into effect. The Sanitary Engineer inspected the town, and on his report, which was drawn up in consultation with the local officers, it was decided that the best plan would be to pump water from the river Bhagirathi into settling-tanks, and distribute it, after filtering, through the ordinary street stand-posts for five or six hours in the morning and three or four

hours in the afternoon, as is done at Dacca and Burdwan. The approximate cost of such a scheme, which would give a supply of eight gallons per head per diem, was estimated at Rs. 2,21,800, or in round numbers Rs. 2,25,000. As soon as this was known, the question of providing the necessary funds was considered, and as it was not possible for the Municipality to carry out such a project without substantial aid from private or other sources, a deputation of the leading inhabitants of Berhampore waited on Maharani Surnomoyee, C.I., of Kasimbazar, in order to seek her aid towards the financing of the scheme, and that generous lady, with her characteristic liberality, at once offered to bear the entire cost of the scheme, provided it did not exceed Rs. 2,21,000, on being assured that Government would grant the services of an engineer free of cost, and that the Municipality and the District Board would undertake to bear the cost of maintenance of the works when completed. In August 1894 instructions were issued by Government to the Sanitary Board to undertake the preparation of a scheme under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer, with the assistance of a surveyor on Rs. 250 a month and a draftsman, the expenditure on this account being met from Provincial revenues, in case it could not be provided out of the total limit of cost. The Board, with the approval of Government, deferred the preparation of the plans and estimates until the water of the river Bhagirathi had been thoroughly tested and analysed. Samples of the water were taken at different seasons, and analysed, with the result that it was found to be "organically safe," and convertible, under a proper system of filtration, into a good supply. The settlement of details such as the position of the pipe lines and standposts occupied some time, but the Sanitary Board have at last succeeded in drawing up a complete scheme. The total cost is now shown to be Rs. 2,38,883, the reasons for the increase being (a) that it was not known, at the time the rough estimate was prepared, that the water of the Bhagirathi required such careful filtration; (b) that provision has been made for house-connections; and (c) that the present estimate provides for a constant supply of water. It appears, however, from a report submitted by the Magistrate of Murshidabad, that the estimate is susceptible of reduction under certain heads, and that the actual expenditure in the execution of the works will probably not exceed the original estimate. Subject to this proviso, the Maharani agrees to pay the whole cost of the scheme, which may, therefore, be regarded as financially sound. The Municipal Commissioners of Berhampore have resolved to bear the entire cost of maintenance and to impose the necessary water-rate. As regards the carrying out of the project, it is proposed that this should be undertaken by the Magistrate of the district in consultation with the Maharani.

The Lieutenant-Governor sanctions the scheme as drawn up by the Sanitary Board, and approves the proposal that it should be carried out by the Magistrate of the district in consultation with the Maharani. Sir Alexander Mackenzie desires to take this opportunity of thanking the Maharani for her munificent gift, which is only one of her many acts of public spirit and liberality, and which will confer a lasting boon on the town of Berhampore. This Resolution will be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

H. H. RISLEY,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

DISTRESS IN THE PRESIDENCY, CHOTA NAGPUR AND OTHER DIVISIONS, EXCEPT THE PATNA DIVISION.

No. 611(Fam.).—The 2nd March 1897.—The following are published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 609Agri. (Fam.), dated Calcutta, the 1st March 1897.

From—M. FINUCANE, Esq., Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Dept.

IN continuation of this Government's letter No. 455Agri.(Fam.), dated the 16th February 1897, reporting on relief operations in the Patna Division, I am directed to submit famine statements A and B for the districts of Nadia and Khulna, together with the following report on the condition and prospects of the Presidency and other Divisions in Bengal.

2. *Presidency Division*.—Of the districts in the Presidency Division, there is nothing new to report with regard to the 24-Parganas, and Murshidabad. In which there is no distress at present, nor any immediate prospect of necessity for relief. In Murshidabad, as reported in paragraph 9 of my letter No. 447Agri.(Fam.), dated the 16th February 1897, there is some probability of distress, especially in a tract bordering on the affected area in the north-west of the district of Nadia. Test works have been opened, and the situation is being carefully watched.

In the district of Jessore the worst tracts are an area of 106 square miles in the north-east of the Magura subdivision, situated mostly in thana Muhammadpur but partly in thana Magura and out-post Salikha, and an area of 168 square miles in thana Bangaon. The total population of the two tracts is about 163,000. The most important crop in these tracts is *aman* or winter rice, which, in consequence of deficient rainfall from July to November, was a total failure, the average outturn, except in *bils* or swamps, being estimated at about two annas. The crop next in importance is the *aus* or autumn paddy, the outturn of which last season was only about six annas; the *rabi* crops also, which are of minor importance, have suffered for want of rain. On the other hand, jute is largely grown in the tracts in question, and yielded a good outturn. Another resource of the people of these parts is the date-palm, which is extensively grown and affords a means of subsistence to many till the middle of March, when the tapping season closes. In consequence of high prices, some slight distress is being felt, and a small number of persons has been placed on gratuitous relief. But distress requiring the opening of relief works is not considered likely to appear till March or April, and may last till the end of June. The Lieutenant-Governor does not apprehend that relief measures on an extensive scale will be required in this district.

The area now affected in the district of Khulna is 442 square miles with a total population of 262,000 persons, comprising thanas Asasuni, Magura and Kaliganj in the Satkhira subdivision, and a portion of thana Paikgacha in the Sadar subdivision. Nearly the whole of this area consists of reclaimed Sundarban lands, and is intersected by numerous tidal rivers and channels, the water of which is salt during the greater part of the year. Practically the only crop grown is winter-rice, the aggregate area occupied by other crops being, it is believed, not more than 2 per cent. of the total cultivated area. The failure of the rice in this area is not so much due to shortness of the rain as to impregnation of the soil with salt water arising from the failure of the local landholders to keep up embankments. Their attention has been called to the matter, and it has been pointed out to them that the responsibility for relieving distress in

this area rests primarily with them. In the first five months of 1896 the rainfall recorded at Satkhira and at Nakipur, another recording station in the Satkhira sub-division, fell short of the normal by 6·04 and 9·17 inches respectively, and was not sufficient to wash out the salt from the soil. The lands had, moreover, been submerged by a storm wave in October 1895, which partially destroyed the crop of that year and left a large deposit of salt. The result of this combination of unfavorable circumstances and of the short ill-distributed rainfall from July to November was that the winter-rice crop almost entirely failed over the greater part of the area in question. There can be no doubt that the failure of the winter rice crop for two successive seasons has caused distress among the people, but although relief works have been opened in the affected tract since December last, the number of labourers employed on them is still small. At the end of January there were three relief works open, but the total number of labourers shown in the famine statement A now submitted is only 147. Since then the number has increased, the total number reported on the 21st February being 351. It is remarkable that there are no women among the relief workers. This is reported to be due to the social customs of the people of the district which debar women from seeking employment on relief works. The number on gratuitous relief at the end of January was 142, and, on the 20th February, 727, of whom 374 were women.

The condition of the affected tract was reported at the end of January to have undergone no change. There is no *rabi* crop, and food stocks were reported to be small, but grain was being imported by the local dealers. Two more tracts are considered likely to be affected in this district, viz., an area of 60 square miles with a population of 46,000 in thanas Satkhira and Magura, where distress is apprehended from the middle of March, and 201 square miles with a population of 96,000 in thanas Mollahat and Morelganj of the Bagerhat subdivision, but the Commissioner has not yet put this Government in possession of complete information regarding these tracts.

In the district of Nadia distress is spreading, and the areas affected at the close of January were:—

Nadia.

Thanas.

Square miles.

Kaliganj	...	...	...	...	109
½ Nakashipara	...	...	...	...	67·50
½ Chapra	...	...	...	...	65
½ Meherpur	...	...	...	...	66·50
½ Gangui	...	...	...	...	63·00
Karimpur	...	...	...	...	193 00
½ Daulatpur	...	...	...	...	72·00
¾ Tehatta	...	...	...	...	135·30
½ Naopara	...	...	...	...	44·25
					<hr/> 815 25 <hr/>

The population of this area is reported to be 428,644.

The tracts where distress first made its appearance are the Kaliganj and Nakashipara thanas of the sadar subdivision and thana Tehatta of the Meherpur subdivision. This portion of the district is known as the Kalantar, and is a low lying tract subject to floods and well adapted to the cultivation of winter rice. There is very little land in this area suited to the cultivation of *aus* or autumn paddy, or of *rahar* (*cajanus indicus*), but *rabi* crops, such as wheat, gram, linseed, &c., are largely grown. In consequence of insufficient and unseasonable rainfall, the outturn of the *aus* crop was not more than 6 annas and the winter rice was almost a total failure, the estimated outturn being only one anna. Of the *rabi* crops, generally speaking, wheat and lentils as well as *khesari* (*lathyrus sativus*) and peas have totally failed, and the other crops which have yielded some outturn do not materially affect the condition of the tract in question. The condition of thanas Karimpur and Daulatpur in the Meherpur subdivision, as described by the local officers, is similar to that of the Kalantar. The principal crops grown are rice and *rabi*. Last year the average outturn of all crops taken together was not more than 8 annas. This year the *aus* yielded only about a four-anna outturn, while the *aman* or winter rice has been a total failure, and the prospects of the coming *rabi* are reported to be gloomy. A great part of the population of both tracts consists of landless labourers and poor cultivators.

Test works were started early in December. In the report for the second-half of January, it is stated by the local officers that two test works and two regular relief works under Civil Officers, and one relief work under the Public Works Department were open during that period, and the total numbers on relief works and gratuitous relief at the end of the month were 8,229 and 1,084 respectively. The only other form of relief given was in the grant of loans, and it is stated that Rs. 15,950 were advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act to 25 applicants during the period under report.

3. *Chota Nagpur Division.*—Particulars regarding the Chota Nagpur Division were furnished in paragraph 8 of my letter on estimates of expenditure No. 447Agri.(Fam.), dated the 16th January 1897. The Commissioner's report for the second half of January shows no change for the worse in the condition of the districts of Lohardaga and Singbhum.

As regards the district of Palamau, under the recent orders of the Government of India, a subsidy of 8 annas a maund (up to a limit of 50,000 maunds) from general revenues has been sanctioned in aid of the importation of grain up to the end of March. The causes of distress in the district of Palamau were fully described in the papers submitted to the Government of India with my letter No. 381Fam., dated the 11th February 1897, are briefly as follows:—Palamau does not in the best of years produce sufficient food for the support of its population, but depends on certain tributary states and the district of Lohardaga to make up the normal deficit in the food supply of the district. This year, in consequence of the general failure of crops, these sources of supply have stopped. There was only a five-anna winter rice crop, preceded by a *bhados* or autumn crop of $9\frac{1}{2}$ annas, and by poor harvests in 1895-96. The whole district, with an area of 4,905 square miles and a sparse population of about 600,000 persons, is reported to be affected. Prices are unusually high, being in places less than 8 seers per rupee. The worst portion of the district is a broad tract, of which the area has not yet been reported by the local officers, running from east to west through the centre of the district. It is within this tract that the scarcity of supplies for sale and the consequent high prices are most felt. In the block to the north of this tract, the state of things gradually improves until the Gaya border is reached, where no indication of distress is at present visible. The corresponding block to the south abounds in forest products, and does not as yet give any great cause for anxiety. During the period under report relief measures were still being organised. The telegraphic report of the 21st February shows that on that date there were in Palamau 2,602 persons on relief works and 409 on gratuitous relief.

In paragraph 8 of my letter No. 447Agri (Fam.), dated the 16th February 1897, it was stated with regard to Manbhum that the outturn of the winter rice crop averaged about 5 annas in thanas Gobindpur, Tundi, Nirsha, Chas and Chandil, comprising 1,280 square miles with a population of 361,000 persons, and that, with the exception of thana Chandil, this area included the greater part of the tracts affected in 1873-74. It was also stated that the Deputy Commissioner was of opinion that if the *mahua* crop failed, two-thirds of the district, with a population of 800,000, would be affected. He did not, however, anticipate much distress before March. A report since received shows that while thana Chandil does not at present give reasons for anxiety, distress has suddenly made its appearance in thana Tundi in the Gobindpur subdivision, and the Commissioner of Chota Nagpur writes that it certainly now looks as though the distress in Manbhum were approaching that of 1874. The prospects of the *rabi* crop in this district are poor. With regard to this and the other districts of the Chota Nagpur Division, the Commissioner wrote on the 12th February that the *mahua* was not yet in flower, but that if the weather was favourable that crop might still be a good one.

No material change is reported to have taken place in the condition of the district of Hazaribagh as described in paragraph 8 of my letter of 16th February above quoted, but prices were high, ranging from 8 to 11 seers per rupee.

4. *Orissa Division.*—The Commissioner of the Orissa Division reports that neither in Angul nor Balasore is there any reason to suppose that scarcity is imminent, and he is of opinion that very ordinary relief measures will suffice for both districts. Cuttack remains in a state of uncertainty, but what is known shows the necessity for watchfulness, especially with regard to the following areas:—

		Square miles.	Population.
Sadar subdivision	...	278	208,000
Banki Government estate	...	117	58,795
Jajpur subdivision	...	324	173,000
Kendrapara subdivision	...	173	88,400
Kujang Ward's Estate	...	320	69,877
Kanika ditto	...	265*	85,563
Total	...	1,477	683,635

* Exclusive of 174 square miles lying within the district of Balasore.

In Puri distress has made its appearance, and measures of relief are being taken in certain tracts near the Chilka lake, which is also the area in which distress first manifested itself in the great Orissa famine of 1866, but the Lieutenant-Governor is not in possession of precise information relating to the area and population affected.

5. *Bhagalpur, Rajshahi, Burdwan, Dacca and Chittagong Divisions.*—There is now nothing to add to what was stated with regard to these Divisions in paragraphs 11 to 14 of my letter No. 447Fam., dated the 16th February 1897.

6. Maps of the districts of Nadia and Khulna showing the areas affected are herewith enclosed.

Monthly Famine Statement A for the five weeks ending Sa'urday evening, the 30th January 1897.*

DISTRICT.	Area.	Population in thousands.	Affected area.	Estimated population in thousands of area in column 4.	NUMBERS ON RELIEF WORKS ON LAST DAY OF MONTH.					Numbers on gratuitous relief.	PRICE OF ONE OR MORE PRINCIPAL FOOD-GRAINS IN SEERs PER RUPEE.			MONTHLY DEATH-RATE.		Deaths due to starvation.
					Class A.	Class B.	Class C.	Class D.	Total.		Common rice.	Ka. l.	Bahar.	In the district.	In the affected area.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Nadia	2,702	1,644	Sq. miles 815.25	428	4,542	1,196	24	2,497	8,259	1,084	8 to 10 ara.	11 to 12 ara.	15 to 16 ara.	(Not stated)		NIL.
Khulna	2,077	1,177	442	263	83	107	...	7	147	142	10 " 4 ch.	...	...	15	20	NIL.
Total	4,779	2,821	1,257.25	690	4,625	1,303	24	2,504	8,406	1,226	...	...	...	...	...

Monthly Famine Statement B for the five weeks ending Saturday evening, the 30th January 1897.

DISTRICT.	Maximum number for whom employment on relief works is estimated to be required in case of serious famine.	NUMBER FOR WHOM RELIEF WAS PROVIDED IN LAST PROGRAMME OF RELIEF WORKS.		NUMBER FOR WHOM RELIEF CAN BE PROVIDED BY WORKS REMAINING ON PROGRAMME ON DATE OF REPORT.		EXPENDITURE SINCE 1st APRIL 1896.			ADVANCES SINCE 1st APRIL 1896 UP TO END OF MONTH, UNDER—			REVENUE EXPENDED.
		On large works.	On small works.	On large works.	On small works.	Date up to which account is made up.	On relief works.	On gratuitous relief.	Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists' Loans Act.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Nadia	22,861					31st January 1897.	Rs. 15,361	Rs. 2,081	Rs. 21,960	NIL		NIL.
Khulna	10,480	...	1,486	...	1,306	19th January 1897.	424	282	275	.....		.....
Total	33,341	9,604	12,931	9,604	12,761	.....	15,785	2,413	22,235	NIL		NIL.

* The programme for this district is not complete.

OILSEED CROPS IN BENGAL.

THE following is published for general information.

REV. DEPT., M. FINUCANE,
The 2nd March 1897. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

DEPARTMENT OF LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE, BENGAL.

First forecast of the oilseed crops of Bengal, 1896-97.

N.B.—Returns have been received from all districts except Darjeeling.

Explanatory.—The chief oilseed crops in these Provinces are:—(1) rapeseed and mustard, (2) linseed, (3) *til* or gingelly, and (4) other oilseeds, e.g., castor-oil and *sirguza* (niger oilseed), &c. Two varieties of *til* are grown, viz. (a) the *bhadoi til*, which is sown during the rains and reaped early in the cold weather, and (b) the *rabi til*, which is sown in the cold weather and reaped shortly before the setting in of the rains. Both varieties are included in the present report.

2. *Character of the season.*—The monsoon season of 1896 was exceptionally dry. It also ceased early. The month of October was practically rainless, and no general rain was received over the Province till the third week of November. The absence of rain during this period and the deficient rainfall of the previous months produced a want of moisture in the soil which interfered seriously with the sowing of the oilseed crops. In December there was no rain in Lower Bengal and Orissa. In North Bengal there was general light rain on the 31st, and in Bihar and Chota Nagpur light rain fell on the 25th and 31st. In January, rain was very light throughout the Province, in most parts practically nil. During the first fortnight of February, good and general rain fell in Bihar and Chota Nagpur, and showers were recorded in North and South-West Bengal, and also in Backergunge and Noakhali in East Bengal; it is probable that this rain which has fallen since the district returns were submitted may have improved prospects.

3. *Area cultivated.*—Exclusive of Darjeeling, for which no returns have been received, the total area sown with oilseeds in Bengal during the current year is estimated at 3,604,600 acres against 4,182,900 acres estimated to have been sown in 1895-96. This shows a decrease of 578,300 acres, or 13·8 per cent., on the area sown last year. The decrease is due to the early cessation of the monsoon rains, and subsequent want of rain which left the soil generally too

dry for sowing. An increase in the area sown this year is, however, noticeable in Bogra, Pabna, Patna, Gaya, Shahabad and Malda. In Gaya and Malda the season is said to have been favourable for sowing. In Patna, wheat lands, and in the remaining districts mentioned above, rice lands, which could not be sown with these crops owing to deficient rain, were utilized for growing oil-seed crops.

4. *Character of the crop.*—On reference to the appended returns, it will be seen that out of 44 districts from which reports have been received, no district returns an average crop (of oil-seeds taken as a whole) amounting to 16 annas; nine districts, viz., Dinajpur, Bogra, Tippera, Patna, Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Purnea and Malda, report crops from 12 to 15 annas; and 18 districts, viz., Jessore, Rajshahi, Jalpaiguri, Rangpur, Pabna, Dacca, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Backergunge, Noakhali, Shahabad, Saran, Champaran, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Cuttack, Balasore and Hazaribagh, report crops from 8 annas to less than 12 annas. The remaining 17 districts, including all the districts of the Burdwan Division and most of the districts in the Presidency and Chota Nagpur Divisions, return crops less than 8 annas.

Fourteen districts now return better crops than those of 1895-96, four districts equal crops, and the remaining districts worse crops. Taking the Province as a whole, the crop of the present year would appear to be much the same as that of the previous year, and may be estimated at 10 annas against $10\frac{1}{2}$ annas estimated for the previous year, but this outturn will be obtained over a smaller area than in 1895-96. The poor outturn of the year may be ascribed to the deficient rainfall of the last monsoon season and to subsequent want of rain in October and throughout the greater part of November.

The rain which has fallen since most of the returns appended to this note were written may have improved the prospects of the crop. If so, the improvement will be noticed in the final forecast which will be issued about the 21st May 1897.

N. N. BANERJEE,

*Assistant Director of Land Records
and Agriculture, Bengal.*

Countersigned.

W. C. MACPHERSON,

*Director of Land Records and
Agriculture, Bengal.*

CALCUTTA,

The 22nd February 1897.

First Forecast of the Oilseed Crops of Bengal, 1896-97.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Division.	District.	Names of oilseeds.	Approximate normal area under oilseeds.	Approximate area sown last year (1895-96).	Estimated area sown this year (1896-97).	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1895-96)?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1896-97)?	Remarks by District Officers.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
BHOGDWAR.	Burdwan	Linseed Rapeseed Til mustard. Other oilseeds Total	26,500 10,900 3,300 1,900 44,200	26,500 9,100 2,300 1,300 40,700	26,500 8,400 2,000 800 38,900	10 92 14 13 10	4 84 8 4 5	Owing to the early cessation of rains in September, and for want of seasonable rain, the area and outturn are less than that of last year.	
	Birbhum	Linseed Rapeseed Til mustard. Other oilseeds Total	1,000 3,000 500 4,500	800 1,300 400 2,500	800 300 100 500	3 5 4 41	54 54 4 54	Want of rain prevented sowing except at a few places in the river banks.	
	Bankura	Linseed Rapeseed Til mustard. Other oilseeds Total	1,300 9,600 2,900 10,000	1,100 9,600 2,900 9,500	800 1,700 2,200 3,100	13	6	The decrease both in area and outturn is due to unusual cessation of rains during the year. The unfavourable weather of the year has also affected the outturn.	
		Total	20,800	20,100	6,800	13	6		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
District.	Names of oilseeds.	Approximate area sown last year (1898-99).	Approximate area sown this year (1900-01).	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1898-99) ?	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1900-01) ?	Remarks by District Officers.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.		
Midnapore...	Linseed " and Rapeseed mustard. 24,300 11,700 Til 40,300 22,100 Other oilseeds 20,400 26,200 Total 84,900 60,000	Approximate area sown last year (1898-99).	Approximate area sown this year (1900-01).	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1898-99) ?	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1900-01) ?	The area brought under cultivation has been less than the normal area as well as the area of last year in consequence of the total failure of rain, and for the same reason the outturn is also likely to be less than that of last year.			
Bachly " (with Howrah).	Linseed " and Rapeseed mustard. 2,700 1,900 Til 5,300 3,300 Other oilseeds 1,300 200 Total 9,300 5,400	Approximate area sown last year (1898-99).	Approximate area sown this year (1900-01).	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1898-99) ?	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1900-01) ?	The decrease in area sown and estimated outturn is due to want of rain.			
24-Parganas	Linseed " and Rapeseed mustard. 1,500 1,300 Til 600 400 Other oilseeds 4,000 500 Total 6,000 2,200	Approximate area sown last year (1898-99).	Approximate area sown this year (1900-01).	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1898-99) ?	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1900-01) ?	The unusual decrease in the area sown this year is due to scanty rainfall at the sowing season. The main cause also accounts for the decrease in the estimated outturn of the crops.			
Nadia	Linseed " and Rapeseed mustard. 57,900 28,000 Til 57,700 23,200 Other oilseeds 17,000 9,800 Total 132,600 61,000	Approximate area sown last year (1898-99).	Approximate area sown this year (1900-01).	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1898-99) ?	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1900-01) ?	Owing to want of rain, most of the lands could not be cultivated, hence the marked decrease in the estimated area sown this year. The decrease in the estimated outturn is also due to the same cause. The area under <i>dhados</i> in the Kanaghat sub-division shown last year, has been excluded from the present return, as there has been no cultivation of the same during the current year.			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
District.	Names of oilseeds.	Approximate normal area under oilseeds.	Approximate area sown last year. (1896-97).	Estimated area sown this year (1896-97).	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1896-97)?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1896-97)?	Remarks by District Officers.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.	
Darjeeling ...	Rapeseed and Mustard, ...	Acres. 7,500	Acres. 7,500	Acres.	Annas. 10	Annas.	Return not received.	Return not received.	
	Til ...	100	100	.....	8	.....		
	Total ...	7,600	7,600	.....	10	.....		
Rangpur ...	Rapeseed and Mustard, ...	104,000	103,500	107,000	10	11	The increased area sown this year as compared with that of the preceding year is due to non-transplantation of a large area usually reserved for aman paddy, owing to absence of timely rainfall; it thus became available for oilseeds. Want of seasonable rainfall is the cause of the outturn being much below the average.		
	Til ...	800	600	800	10	11			
	Other oilseeds ...	1,200	1,100	200	10	11			
	Total ...	105,800	105,100	108,000	10	11			
Bogra ...	Linseed ...	12,000	15,000	15,000	11	11	The increase in the area cultivated with mustard is due to the fact that the lands which could be sown with paddy were to a great extent utilized in cultivating mustard.		
	Rapeseed and Mustard, ...	105,000	80,000	100,000	13	16			
	Til ...	20,200	14,000	14,000	10	13			
	Other oilseeds ...	3,500	3,000	2,000	13	13			
Pabna ...	Total ...	146,000	111,000	131,000	12	13	The poor outturn of linseed and mustard is due to absence of rain. The increase in the area sown with linseed, mustard and til is due to the failure of the aman crop which induced cultivators to grow other crops more extensively.		
	Linseed ...	22,500	19,500	20,000	16	8			
	Rapeseed and Mustard, ...	117,000	104,000	112,000	16	11			
	Til ...	30,100	30,100	40,000	6	16			
RAJSHAHY—continued.	Total ...	169,600	153,600	172,000	14	11	Return not received.	Return not received.	
	Rapeseed and Mustard, ...	169,600	153,600	172,000	14	11			
	Til ...	169,600	153,600	172,000	14	11			
	Total ...	169,600	153,600	172,000	14	11			

Dacca		9	11	7,000	8,900	12,800	11	9	Went of rain is the cause of the decrease in the area sown and outturn estimated.
Dacca	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	94	104	85,300	95,400	110,100	104	94	
		11	114	14,100	22,800	27,900	114	11	
Mymensingh	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	9	11	33,900	102,000	135,500	11	9	
		11	11	144,700	162,000	185,500	11	11	
Faridpur	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	10	11	33,300	35,500	42,700	11	10	
		11	11	309,900	368,700	460,900	11	11	
Barisal	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	11	12	72,700	74,300	89,200	12	11	
		13	16	200	200	200	16	13	
Bachergunge	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	11	13	408,100	403,600	483,000	13	11	
		14	14	5,200	5,800	7,000	14	14	
Tippur	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	8	14	42,000	45,000	44,000	14	8	
		8	8	8,000	9,000	9,600	8	8	
Nankhali	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	8	14	4,500	6,000	6,000	14	8	
		8	8	59,700	69,700	65,000	8	8	
Dacca	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	8	8	29,800	29,800	39,100	8	8	
		8	8	1,500	1,500	1,500	8	8	
Mymensingh	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	8	8	28,800	28,800	32,800	8	8	
		7	7	5,800	5,800	7,000	7	7	
Faridpur	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	8	8	65,000	65,000	68,500	8	8	
		8	8	4,800	4,800	5,500	8	8	
Barisal	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	14	14	61,800	66,800	163,400	14	14	
		16	16	19,000	19,000	27,300	16	16	
Bachergunge	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	13	13	200	200	7,000	13	13	
		14	14	76,800	74,300	87,700	14	14	
Tippur	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	8	8	13,700	13,500	17,800	8	8	
		8	8	3,200	6,500	6,500	8	8	
Nankhali	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	8	8	3,000	4,700	6,100	8	8	
		8	8	800	800	800	8	8	
Dacca	Lined Rapeseed and Mustard, and Other oilseeds	8	8	26,700	28,300	31,000	8	8	
		8	8	26,700	28,300	31,000	8	8	

For want of rain, low lands ordinarily cultivated with paddy were grown with mustard: hence there has been an increase of area under rapeseed and mustard.

For want of rain there was less cultivation of oil this year than in the last year.

For want of rain, the outturn of all kinds of oilseeds this year is expected to be less than that of last year.

The low outturn is due to scanty rainfall during the growing season.

The oilseed crops have been seriously affected by continued drought, and therefore a poor outturn is expected.

Owing to failure of the winter (amson) crop, the cultivation under linseed and mustard has to some extent increased this year. The outturn of the oilseed crops is not expected to be better than that of last year on account of drought.

The decrease in area and outturn is due to drought during the time of cultivation and sowing.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
DIVISION	District.	Names of oilseeds.	Approximate normal area under oilseeds.	Approximate area sown last year (1895-96).	Estimated area sown this year (1896-97).	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented the outturn last year (1895-96)?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1896-97)?	Remarks by District Officer.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
CHITTAGONG (-conold.)	Chittagong	Linseed ... and Mustard. ... Other oilseeds ... Total	1,400 2,300 100 3,500	500 2,700 100 4,700	500 2,700 ... 1,100	8 8 8 8	3 3 3 3	The decrease in area and outturn is due to want of rain	The Collector has returned nominal areas of 25 acres each under flax and other oilseeds.
	Palna	Linseed ... and Mustard. ... Other oilseeds ... Total	34,500 20,000 1,800 16,400 75,000	16,500 22,500 1,600 13,100 54,100	19,100 24,700 23,700 13,100 61,000	104 13 8 114 104	104 13 8 124 13	The increase in the area sown this year is due to the wheat land being sown with oilseeds owing to the failure of rain at the sowing season.	
	Gaya	Linseed ... and Mustard. ... Other oilseeds ... Total	35,400 20,500 13,500 81,100 200,800	62,500 15,000 9,300 73,000 162,300	61,000 15,400 9,300 80,000 169,900	6 64 6 6 6	14 13 13 13 131	The increase in acreage under rapeseed and mustard and other oilseeds, and of the estimated outturn, is due to timely rainfall.	

PATNA.									
Shahabad	Linseed	...	12,970	9,500	16,000	94	The increase in the area under oilseeds, as compared with last year's area, is due to the failure of the rice crop, a good deal of rice land having been utilized this year for oilseed cultivation.	94	
	Rapeseed	...	9,500	4,000	7,300	74		74	
	Til	...	800	300	1,000	74		74	
	Other oilseeds	...	13,700	7,300	11,500	11		11	
	Total	...	36,000	21,000	36,500	94		94	
Sarna	Linseed	...	8,300	6,600	6,600	8	For want of moisture, the area sown is less, but the crop is healthy and the outturn is expected to be more than last year's.	10	
	Rapeseed	...	24,500	24,500	20,000	10		10	
	Til (rahi)	...	4,000	4,000	1,800	6		6	
	Other oilseeds	...	11,700	10,300	10,600	10		10	
	Total	...	49,000	46,400	39,000	94		94	
Champuram	Linseed	...	207,700	173,000	140,000	11	The area is much less than usual, owing to great lack of moisture consequent on the very early cessation of the rains, and the outturn on the area will be less than usual, owing to the same cause and the lateness of the sowing. Also food crops have been sown in preference to oilseeds this year.	11	
	Rapeseed	...	161,300	76,000	64,000	8		8	
	Til	...	3,000	3,000	4,000	10		10	
	Other oilseeds	...	3,000	3,800	2,100	6		6	
	Total	...	375,000	256,800	210,100	10		10	
Munshapur	Linseed	...	17,000	17,000	17,000	10	The estimated outturn is less than the normal owing to the scanty rainfall in the rainy season, but more than last year's outturn, as the winter rain improved the condition of these crops.	13	
	Rapeseed	...	17,000	17,000	17,000				
	Other oilseeds	...	13,000	15,900	13,600				
	Total	...	47,000	50,900	47,600	4		4	
Darbhanga	Linseed	...	47,700	46,400	46,400	8	Though there may be some decrease in the area sown, the mustard being a fine crop this year, an average area has been returned allowing for the reduction in area.	13	
	Rapeseed	...	49,400	40,300	40,300	8		8	
	Other oilseeds	...	36,100	37,500	37,500	9		9	
	Total	...	133,200	124,200	124,200	94		94	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
District.	Names of oilseeds.	Approximate normal area under oilseeds.	Approximate area sown last year (1895-96).	Estimated area sown this year (1896-97).	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1895-96)?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1896-97)?	Remarks by District Officers.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.	
Monghyr	Linseed ... and Rapeseed ... and mustard.	Acres. 10,500	Acres. 6,000	Acres. 4,500	Annas. 13	Annas. 10	Owing to scanty rainfall a smaller area was sown than last year.	The area in column 5 against rapeseed and mustard has been altered in this office with reference to the alterations made by the Collector in columns 4 and 6.	
	Til	1,000	400	400	8	10			
	Other oilseeds ...	16,700	7,600	7,600	12	12			
	Total	33,500	22,000	23,300	11	11			
Shahjhpur	Linseed ... and Rapeseed ... and mustard.	14,100	12,300	11,700	8	9	Deficient rainfall and consequent want of moisture account for the decrease in area in column 5 and in outturn in column 8.	The sowing season for linseed and (3) was not favourable, hence the decrease in area.	
	Til	300	500	500	10	6			
	Other oilseeds ...	17,300	15,700	14,500	9	9			
	Total	70,000	65,200	60,000	9	9			
Purnea	Linseed ... and Rapeseed ... and mustard.	10,000	8,500	8,000	12	12	The sowing season for linseed and (3) was not favourable, hence the decrease in area.	The area in column 5 against rapeseed and mustard has been altered in this office with reference to the alterations made by the Collector in columns 4 and 6.	
	Til	900,000	150,500	150,500	12	12			
	Other oilseeds ...	600	300	300	16	10			
	Total	212,900	204,000	203,500	12	12			
Malda	Linseed ... and Rapeseed ... and mustard.	6,300	10,200	10,200	8	12	Mustard has been sown more extensively than usual owing to the early cessation of the rains and low state of rivers, which allowed the land to be prepared early. The figures given for last year's area and the normal area have been found to be quite wrong by personal enquiry. The normal area is therefore estimated to be 80,000, and the area this year is 100,000 acres.	The area in column 5 against rapeseed and mustard has been altered in this office with reference to the alterations made by the Collector in columns 4 and 6.	
	Til	60,000	67,200	100,000	8	12			
	Other oilseeds ...	11,000	7,000	7,000	8	12			
	Total	97,900	84,000	117,200	8	12			

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
DIVISION.	District.	Name of oilseeds.	Approximate normal area under oilseeds.	Approximate area sown last year (1896-97).	Estimated area sown this year (1896-97).	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas represented outturn last year (1895-96)?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn per acre, how many annas will represent this year's outturn (1896-97)?	Remarks by District Officers.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
CHOTA NAAGPUR—continued.	Palamu ...	Linseed ... and Rapeseed ... Til ... Other oilseeds ...	Acres. 1,300 12,000	Acres. 11,500 10,800	Acres. 5,800 7,400	Annas. 7 7	Annas. 7 7	The decrease in area this year is due to want of rain.	
	Manbhum ...	Rapeseed ... and Til ... Other oilseeds ...	Acres. 25,600 2,000 61,900	Acres. 25,000 2,000 61,900	Acres. 3,300 3,000 4,500	Annas. 7 13 4	Annas. 7 13 4	The decrease in the area sown in the case of rapeseed and mustard and other oilseeds is due to want of rain. The decrease in outturn is due to the same cause.	
	Singbhum...	Linseed ... and Rapeseed ... Til ... Other oilseeds ...	Acres. 7,600 20,800 12,900 6,600	Acres. 7,600 20,800 11,800 6,600	Acres. 6,700 28,700 4,800 600	Annas. 124 151 121 121	Annas. 124 151 121 121	The decrease in outturn is due to insufficient rainfall.	
	All Benral exclusive of Darjeeling ...	Linseed ... and Rapeseed ... Til ... Other oilseeds ...	Acres. 885,800 2,853,300 422,100 1,022,800	Acres. 712,700 2,137,100 385,800 820,300	Acres. 523,000 1,899,900 340,200 621,900	Annas. 94 111 10 10	Annas. 94 111 10 10		As estimated by this Department on the returns furnished by District Officer in the latter part of January. The rain, which has fallen in February may have improved prospects.
		Total ...	4,864,100	4,182,900	3,654,500	101	101		

N.B.—Twenty annas represent a bumper crop, 16 annas an average crop, 13 annas three-fourths of an average crop, and so on

No. 512 State.—The following is published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta during March 1897.

Stock in hand as compiled on—

NAMES OF MARKS.	1st week of Mar. 1896.	2nd week of Feb. 1897.	3rd week of Feb. 1897.	4th week of Feb. 1897.	1st week of Mar. 1897.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Baliaghatta ...	5,74,000	2,20,000	4,00,000	4,25,000	5,27,000
Ultadanga ...	69,000	8,400	12,000	20,100	20,900
Chitpur, Golabari, Kumartuly, Hatkhole, and Culpai Ghat...	6,05,800	1,00,600	1,10,500	1,23,700	1,30,200
Pathuriaghatta, Posta, and Jorabagan ...	5,000	3,600	4,300	3,400	4,000
Tollygunge, Chella, Kidderpore, and Munshiganj ...	2,67,300	1,30,500	1,43,800	1,38,100	1,51,000
Minor bazars (1) ...	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000
Other retail shops (1) ...	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000
Ramkrishnapur ...	.....	72,600	68,500	85,200	89,700
Baidyabati, Nawabganj, Bhadres- war, and Chandernagore† ...	15,241	11,127	9,747	16,910	7,286
Total ...	20,26,341	10,93,027	12,41,447	13,02,410	14,20,086
On Railway premises on both sides of the river.‡	15,249 (on 3rd Mar. 1896).	1,16,447 (on 30th Jan. 1897).	51,335 (on 14th Feb. 1897.)	97,954 (on 21st Feb. 1897.)	(a)
On boats unloaded— By Port Commissioners' returns	43,350 (1st to 3rd Mar. 1896).	68,377 (30th Jan. to 1st Feb. 1897).	1,09,140 (13th to 15th Feb. 1897)	41,490 (20th to 22nd Feb. 1897.)	51,635 (27th Feb. to 1st Mar. 1897.)
By Canal returns ...	71,503 (1st to 3rd Mar. 1896).	1,36,091 (30th Jan. to 1st Feb. 1897).	45,951 (13th to 15th Feb. 1897.)	45,506 (20th to 22nd Feb. 1897.)	56,324 (27th Feb. to 1st Mar. 1897.)
Grand Total of Stocks ...	21,56,448	12,98,908	14,47,873	14,87,360	15,28,045

* This mart is in the Howrah district, and the figures have been obtained by local enquiry.
† Figures furnished by the Collector of Hooghly.
‡ Ditto by the Railway authorities.

(1) Estimated as a constant quantity.
(a) Railway return not received.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 2nd March 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF CALCUTTA IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 513 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 2nd March 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Memorandum.

The sea-borne import and export traffic of Calcutta in food-grains during the week ending the 21st February 1896 and 1897 is shown in the following statement:—

	15TH TO 21ST FEBRUARY			
	1896.		1897.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
<i>Imports.</i>				
From Foreign Ports ...	3	4	.....	.....
" Indian " ...	27,121	36,915	109,325	1,48,803
Total ...	27,124	36,919	109,325	1,48,803
<i>Exports.</i>				
To Foreign Ports ...	220,616	3,00,283	149,106	2,02,950
" Indian " ...	51,861	70,588	25,372	34,534
Total ...	272,477	6,70,871	174,478	2,37,484

Imports.—The different staples comprising the import traffic are shown in the table below, and the figures for the week are compared with those for the corresponding period last year:—

	15TH TO 21ST FEBRUARY			
	1896.		1897.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
<i>Food-grains.</i>				
Rice ...	14,441	19,656	95,936	1,30,581
Paddy ...	9,024	12,283	8,724	11,874
Wheat ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gram and pulses ...	3,659	4,980	3,920	5,331
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c. ....	.....	.....	745	1,014
Total ...	27,124	36,919	109,325	1,48,803

As in previous weeks, the chief feature of the import trade is the considerable quantity of rice, amounting to 89,635 cwts., received in Calcutta from Burma. The imports from Chandbali showed a falling off of 7,754 cwts. as compared with those for 1896. The shipments of rice from Balasore remained practically the same as in the previous year, but this port supplied 1,768 cwts. of paddy against nil in 1896. The bulk of the imports of gram and pulses came from Coconada and Chandbali.

Exports.—In the following statement the total quantity of each kind of food-grains exported by sea during the third week of February 1897 is compared with the figures for 1896 :—

1	15TH TO 21ST FEBRUARY			
	1896.		1897.	
	2	3	4	5
<i>Food-grains.</i>	Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
Rice	253,910	3,45,600	154,989	2,10,957
Paddy	3,463	4,713	22	30
Wheat	1,216	1,655	577	785
Gram and pulses	13,789	13,768	16,283	22,163
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	99	135	2,607	3,549
Total ...	272,477	3,70,871	174,478	2,37,484

The export trade in rice with foreign ports declined from 212,376 cwts. in the corresponding period of last year to 137,657 cwts. during the week under report. The exports by sea in the preceding week were 29,462 cwts. The shipments to Mauritius, West Indies, Cape Colony, and Natal amounted altogether to 63,222 cwts. against nil in 1896, while to Arabia, the United Kingdom, and Ceylon, the exports decreased by 86,238 cwts., 6,093 cwts., and 3,254 cwts., respectively. On the other hand, there was a complete cessation of exports to Germany, Abyssinia, and Aden, which together received 31,645 cwts. of rice in the corresponding period of last year. The figures under gram and pulses showed a slight advance of 4,010 cwts., due chiefly to comparatively larger supplies having been despatched to Mauritius, United Kingdom, Reunion and Trinidad.

In the case of the coasting trade, the exports of rice decreased from 41,394 cwts. to 17,332 cwts., those of paddy from 440 cwts. to 22 cwts., those of wheat from 1,195 cwts. to 441 cwts., and those of gram and pulses from 8,756 cwts. to 7,240 cwts. As regards miscellaneous food-grains, the figures rose from 76 cwts. to 337 cwts. The decrease in the rice trade was chiefly in the supplies carried to Bombay, Madras, and Travancore, while the quantity of gram and pulses shipped for Rangoon aggregated 1,656 cwts., against 3,407 cwts. in 1896.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below.

Statement No. I, showing the Imports of Food-grains into Calcutta from Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 21st February 1896 and 1897.

Ports.				Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.	
1				2	3	4	5	6	7	
* From Indian Ports.				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	
Bombay	...	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	110	...	160
Madras	{	Madras	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	745	745
		Coconada	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	764 2,045	...	764 2,045
	{	Calingapatam	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	342 ...	...	342 ...
		Burma	{	Rangoon	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	3 81,689	6,081	...	298	...	3 88,068
Moulmein	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...			...	6,692	...	...	...	6,692
{	Akyab		{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	1,254	880	...	...	2,134
	Balasore		{	Balasore	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	1,395 1,015	1,763	1,395 2,778
Chandbali		{ 1896 ... 1897 ...		13,040 5,286	9,024	...	2,553 1,427	...	24,617 6,713	
Total Indian Ports			{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	14,438 95,936	9,024 8,724	...	3,659 3,920	...	27,121 109,326	
From Foreign Ports.										
Straits Settlements	...	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	3	...	...	...	...	3
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS			{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	14,441 95,936	9,024 8,724	...	3,659 3,920	...	27,124 109,326	

Statement No. II, showing the Exports of Food-grains from Calcutta to Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 21st February 1896 and 1897.

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>To Foreign Ports.</i>		Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
United Kingdom	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	33,470 27,377	..... .....	..... .....	1,173 2,508	..... .....	34,643 30,180
Germany ...	Hamburg ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	2,003 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	2,003
	Bremen ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,003 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	3,003
Cape Colony ...	Cape Town ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 1,512	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... 495	..... 2,007
	Port Elizabeth ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 2,806	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... 2,806
	Algoa Bay ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 3,452	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... 3,452
Abyssinia	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	17,275 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	17,275
Eastern Coast of Africa—Zanzibar	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 499	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... 499
Mauritius	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 24,845	..... .....	..... .....	..... 3,452	..... 1,731	..... 30,028
Natal	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 2,359	..... .....	..... .....	69 .....	..... .....	..... 2,418
Reunion	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	13,482 10,467	..... .....	..... .....	375 1,492	..... .....	14,057 11,959
South America—Demerara	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	1,503 .....	..... .....	..... .....	440 .....	..... .....	1,943
West Indies	Jamaica ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 9,768	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... 9,768
	Trinidad ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 18,480	..... .....	..... .....	..... 1,006	..... .....	..... 19,486
Aden	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	9,365 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	9,365
Arabia—Maskat	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	48,615 6,701	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	48,615 6,701
Other States	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	44,324 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	44,324
Ceylon	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	32,057 28,803	1,263 .....	..... 40	1,716 9	..... .....	35,036 28,852
China—Hongkong	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	14	1,760	21	4 .....	..... .....	1,799
Persia	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,242 587	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	3,242 587
Straits Settlements	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	129 1	..... .....	..... 96	476 232	23 44	627 363
Fiji Islands	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,836 .....	..... .....	..... .....	849 .....	..... .....	4,685
Total Foreign Ports ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...		212,516 137,657	3,023	21 136	5,033 9,043	23 2,270	220,616 149,106

Ports.				Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.	
1				2	3	4	5	6	7	
To Indian Ports.				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	
Bombay	...	...	{ 1896 ...	31,235	...	...	1,355	...	32,490
	...	...	{ 1897 ...	16,576	22	1	823	50	17,472
	Madras	...	{ 1896 ...	110	...	...	3,120	...	3,230
		...	{ 1897 ...	29	...	...	3,978	176	4,183
	Badagara	...	{ 1896 ...	1,994	...	...	...	...	1,994
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cannanore	...	{ 1896 ...	2,794	410	...	...	...	3,234
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras	Coconada	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	60	...	60
	Cochin	...	{ 1896 ...	567	...	...	202	...	769
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Negapatam	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	...	147	...	137
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	29	381	...	410
	Vizagapatam	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	...	39	...	38
		...	{ 1897 ...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	Rangoon	...	{ 1896 ...	674	...	1,161	3,407	76	5,318	
		...	{ 1897 ...	721	...	276	1,666	109	2,762	
	Akyab	...	{ 1896 ...	46	...	7	111	...	164	
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	168	2	168
Burma	Kyaukpyu	...	{ 1896 ...	1	...	...	1	...	2
		...	{ 1897 ...	2	...	...	14	...	16
	Moulmein	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	...	58	...	58
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chittagong	...	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	...	324	...	324
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	64	...	64
Balasore	Balasore	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	71	...	71
	Chandbali	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	27	84	...	111
		...	{ 1897 ...	3	...	136	37	...	175	
Cutlack	...	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	...	1	...	1
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Port Blair	...	...	{ 1896 ...	...	...	...	8	...	8
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Travancore-Allepey	...	...	{ 1896 ...	3,973	...	...	...	...	3,973
		...	{ 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Indian Ports				{ 1896 ...	41,394	440	1,195	8,756	76	51,861
				{ 1897 ...	17,332	22	441	7,240	337	26,372
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS.				{ 1896 ...	253,910	3,463	1,216	13,789	99	272,477
				{ 1897 ...	164,989	22	577	16,283	2,607	174,478

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF THE MINOR PORTS
IN BENGAL IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 514 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 2nd March 1897.

MEMORANDUM.

THE comparative statements below give statistics of the import and export trade of the minor ports of Chittagong, Narayanganj, Balasore (including both Balasore and Chandbali), Cuttack and Puri during the week ending 7th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896 :—

IMPORTS.					
Ports.			From Foreign ports.	From Indian ports.	Total.
			Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts. Mds.
Chittagong ...	{ 1896 ...	...	.....	489	489 666
	{ 1897 ...	...	...	2,157	..... 2,936
Narayanganj ...	{ 1896 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
Balasore ports...	{ 1896 ...	...	.....	222	222 302
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	359	..... 488
Cuttack ...	{ 1896 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
Puri ...	{ 1896 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	{ 1896 ...	...	.....	711	711 968
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	2,516	2,516 3,424

EXPORTS.					
Ports.			To Foreign ports.	To Indian ports.	Total.
			Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts. Mds.
Chittagong ...	{ 1896 ...	...	12	147	159 216
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
Narayanganj ...	{ 1896 ...	...	.....	272	272 370
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
Balasore ports...	{ 1896 ...	...	83,245	64,937	98,182 1,33,637
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	15,393	15,393 20,951
Cuttack ...	{ 1896 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897 ...	...	11,755	.....	11,755 16,000
Puri ...	{ 1896 ...	...	5,143	.....	5,143 7,000
	{ 1897 ...	...	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	{ 1896 ...	...	38,400	65,356	103,756 1,41,223
	{ 1897 ...	...	11,755	15,393	27,148 36,951

Owing mainly to larger supplies of rice, paddy, and gram and pulse from Narayanganj and Burma, the import trade of Chittagong showed a rise of 1,668 cwts. The Balasore trade also showed an improvement of 127 cwts., which was due to large despatches from Calcutta. Of miscellaneous food-grains none of these were sent to Balasore in the corresponding period of last year.

Balasore and Puri showed a decline of 82,789 cwts. and 5,143 cwts., respectively, in consequence of smaller despatches of rice, paddy, and gram and pulse to Calcutta; there were no exports to other Indian and Foreign ports. The trade of Cuttack was confined to Mauritius, to which 11,755 cwts. of rice were sent against *nil* in the corresponding period of 1896.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below:—

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Chittagong from each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 7th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.		
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Indian Ports.</i>													
Narayanganj	...	488	...	...	...	...	15	336	...	...	15	824	...
Burma—Maungdaw	...	...	...	1,239	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,239	...
Calcutta	...	...	...	...	...	...	462	94	12	...	474	94	...
Total	...	488	...	1,239	...	...	477	430	12	...	489	2,157	...

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Chittagong from each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 7th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		TOTAL.		
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Port.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Maldives	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	10	.....	13	.....	.....
<i>Indian Ports.</i>													
Cutch Mandi	147	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	147	.....	.....
Total	147	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	10	.....	159	.....	.....

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Narayanganj to each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 7th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.		
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Indian Ports.</i>													
Chittagong	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	272	.....	.....	.....	.....	272	.....
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	272	.....	.....	.....	.....	272	.....

To be substituted for pages 685 and 686
of the Supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette*
dated 3rd March 1897.

EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

No. 557-Statistics.—The following statements show the quantities of rice and other food-grains—

- (a) exported by the East Indian Railway from Howrah during the period from 1st January to 20th February 1897 inclusive;
- (b) exported by the East Indian Railway from Kidderpore Docks, Chitpore, and the Port Trust Railway during the period from 31st January to 20th February 1897 inclusive. From the 1st to 30th January inclusive the quantity exported from these places was 87,800 maunds.

14,63,292 maunds were therefore carried up-country from Calcutta by the East Indian Railway between 1st January and 20th February 1897; the destinations to which 13,75,492 maunds were shipped appear in the statements below. Of this quantity, 9,53,007 maunds (or about two-thirds) were carried to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and 1,81,588 (about one-eighth) to stations in these provinces; the rest (2,40,897 maunds) was carried to other provinces.

STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 2nd March 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Hbwarah by rail from 1st January to 20th February 1897.

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 20th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
BENGAL.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Hooghly.</i>				
Tarakeswar ...	248	...	...	...
Chandernagore ...	6	...	...	...
Dasghora ...	2	...	...	...
Pandua ...	4	...	...	...
Bainchi ...	17	...	...	...
Total ...	272	...	...	...
<i>Burdwan.</i>				
Memari ...	58	...	...	...
Rasulpur ...	4	...	...	...
Burdwan ...	95	48	...	...
Raniganj ...	1,460	228	142	206
Sitarampur ...	10	...	...	...
Ghuskara ...	108	...	...	...
Total ...	1,780	271	142	206
<i>Birbhum.</i>				
Bolpur ...	2	...	...	...
Sainthia ...	1	...	...	...
Total ...	3	...	...	...
<i>Nadia.</i>				
Chuadanga ...	353	...	...	...
Kushtia ...	343	...	387	...
Alamdanga ...	...	388	...	...
Total ...	696	388	387	...
<i>Murshidabad.</i>				
Ainaganj ...	157	154	...	...
Total ...	157	154	...	...
<i>Rangpur.</i>				
Lalmonir Hat ...	55	...	...	...
Cooch Behar ...	755	...	...	...
<i>Jalpaiguri.</i>				
Jalpaiguri ...	392	...	...	...
Ramshai ...	...	...	375	356
Total ...	392	...	375	356
<i>Darjeeling.</i>				
Darjeeling ...	382	346	...	...
Total ...	382	346	...	...
TOTAL OF BENGAL ...	4,442	1,659	904	562

EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

No. 557-Statistics.—The following statements show the quantities of rice and other food-grains—

- (a) Exported by the East Indian Railway from Howrah during the period from 1st January to 20th February 1897 inclusive;
- (b) Exported by the East Indian Railway from Kidderpore Docks, Chitpore, and the Port Trust Railway during the period from 31st January to 20th February 1897 inclusive.

During the month of January the quantity exported from these places was 87,800 maunds. 14,63,292 maunds were therefore carried up-country from Calcutta by the East Indian Railway between 1st January and 20th February 1897; the destinations to which 13,75,492 maunds were shipped appear in the statements below. Of this quantity, 9,53,007 maunds (or about two-thirds) were carried to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and 1,81,588 (about one-eighth) to stations in these provinces; the rest (2,40,897 maunds) were carried to other provinces.

STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 2nd March 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Hbwarah by rail from 1st January to 20th February 1897.

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
BENGAL.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Hooghly.</i>				
Tarakeswar ...	248	...	...	...
Chandernagore ...	6	...	...	...
Dasghora ...	2	...	...	...
Pandua ...	4	...	...	...
Bainchi ...	17	...	...	...
Total ...	272	...	...	...
<i>Burdwan.</i>				
Memari ...	58	...	...	...
Rasulpur ...	4	...	...	...
Burdwan ...	95	48	...	...
Raigangj ...	1,460	228	142	206
Sitarampur ...	10	...	...	...
Ghuskara ...	108	...	...	...
Total ...	1,730	271	142	206
<i>Birbhum.</i>				
Bolpur ...	2	...	...	...
Sainthia ...	1	...	...	...
Total ...	3	...	...	...
<i>Nadia.</i>				
Chuadanga ...	358	...	...	...
Kushtia ...	343	...	387	...
Alamdanga ...	...	888	...	...
Total ...	696	888	387	...
<i>Murshidabad.</i>				
Azimganj ...	157	154	...	...
Total ...	157	154	...	...
<i>Rangpur.</i>				
Lalmonir Hat ...	55	...	...	...
Cooch Behar ...	755	...	...	...
<i>Jalpaiguri.</i>				
Jalpaiguri ...	392	...	...	...
Ramshai ...	...	...	375	356
Total ...	392	...	375	356
<i>Darjeeling.</i>				
Darjeeling ...	382	346	...	...
Total ...	382	346	...	...
TOTAL OF BENGAL ...	4,442	1,659	904	562

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
CHOTA NAGPUR.				
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Hazaribagh.</i>				
Giridih ...	750	...	876	...
Total ...	750	...	876	...
<i>Mandhum.</i>				
Purulia ...	22	...	...	...
Bulrampur ...	5	...	...	...
Barakar ...	3	...	...	...
Pradhan Khanta ...	1	...	...	...
Total ...	31	...	...	...
<i>Singhbhum.</i>				
Chakradharpur ...	81	...	...	...
Total ...	81	...	...	...
TOTAL OF CHOTA NAGPUR ...	812	...	876	...
BIHAR.				
<i>Sonthal Parganas.</i>				
Sabibganj ...	380	372	...	374
Baidyanath ...	2	...	...	...
Total ...	382	372	...	374
<i>Bhagalpur.</i>				
Bhagalpur ...	764	...	...	...
Total ...	764	...	...	...
<i>Monghyr.</i>				
Lakhisarai ...	388	...	...	...
Monghyr ...	382	...	...	...
Garhara ...	2,208	877	...	...
Tagra ...	746	...	...	...
Begamsarai ...	371	...	...	...
Total ...	4,155	377	...	...
<i>Patna.</i>				
Barh ...	1,548	...	...	376
Patna City ...	378	1,129	...	...
Patna Ghat ...	12,403	1,886	2,258	3,805
Bankipore ...	1,491	...	...	...
Digha Ghat ...	2,876	757	...	...
Sadispur ...	375	...	...	...
Bihta ...	1,211	...	126	...
Mokameh ...	...	...	...	378
Dinapur ...	...	...	...	375
Total ...	19,782	3,774	2,384	4,804
<i>Gaya.</i>				
Gaya ...	...	...	370	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
BIHAR—conold.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Shahabad.</i>				
Arrah ...	1,129	...	...	871
Buxar ...	1,518	1,541	...	...
Dumraon ...	378	372	...	...
Total ...	3,020	1,913	...	871
<i>Darbhanga.</i>				
Samastipur ...	...	...	2,393	878
Dalsingh Sarai ...	374	...	...	755
Darbhanga ...	8,169	...	...	...
Kamtaul ...	1,104	...	...	...
Total ...	9,647	...	2,393	1,133
<i>Muzaffarpur.</i>				
Kanti ...	...	...	748	...
Matipur ...	1,022	...	...	...
Dholi ...	1,115	...	404	...
Muzaffarpur ...	6,843	883	1,147	3,057
Bhagwanpur ...	22	...	...	...
Sitamarhi ...	382	...	877	785
Hajipur ...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	9,384	883	2,676	3,842
<i>Champaran.</i>				
Maesi ...	1,018	...	...	...
Segowli ...	1,410	...	...	...
Jindara ...	6,735	...	1,929	...
Bettiah ...	5,727	...	385	2,410
Para ...	507	...	...	...
Motihari ...	...	883	...	376
Total ...	15,397	883	2,314	3,786
<i>Saran.</i>				
Ekma ...	...	875	...	...
Chapra ...	4,112	1,505	379	2,597
Goldenganj ...	2	...	...	...
Daronda ...	372	...	...	...
Savan ...	16,409	5,747	5,166	7,720
Revelganj ...	10,784	1,155	1,121	1,868
Total ...	31,679	8,782	6,606	12,185
TOTAL OF BIHAR ...	94,210	16,484	16,803	26,025
TOTAL OF PROVINCES UNDER THE LIEUTENANT-GOVER- NOR OF BENGAL.	90,404	18,143	18,083	27,187
NORTH-WESTERN PROV- INCES AND OUDH.				
<i>Ghazipur District.</i>				
Dildarnagar ...	1,808	747	750	804
Guhmer ...	365	...	...	...
Tari Ghat ...	5,352	...	2,262	...
Total ...	7,585	747	2,012	804

STATION TO WHICH CON- SIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February. 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
NORTH-WESTERN PROV- INCES AND OUDH-- contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Benares District.</i>				
Zamania	1,869	876	...	...
Sakaldiha	2,273	883	...	...
Mogulsarai	879	...	...	...
Benares Cantonment ...	26,811	5,401	382	1,140
Total	81,332	6,160	382	1,140
<i>Gorakhpur District.</i>				
Chaurichaura ... ..	...	1,127	...	1,501
Tahsil Deoria	1,510	375	...	888
Gorakhpur	2,304	1,142	...	...
Sahjanwa	778	1,146	377	...
Total	4,587	3,790	377	1,884
<i>Basti District.</i>				
Basti	1,938	751	374	1,137
Uska Bazar	1,146	...	...	376
Total	3,079	751	374	1,513
<i>Gonda District.</i>				
Nawabganj ... ..	...	...	...	881
Gonda	1,485	384	374	1,182
Other places	1,153	3,374	1,129	...
Total	2,638	3,758	1,503	1,513
<i>Baraich District.</i>				
Baraich ... ..	...	...	...	376
<i>Mirzapur District.</i>				
Ahaura Road	1,505	1,891	749	...
Chunar	823	...	...	...
Mirzapur	22,465	3,038	1,172	1,883
Gainpura	883	...	...	...
Total	25,176	4,924	1,921	1,883
<i>Allahabad District.</i>				
Manwari	878	377	...	...
Jaora	376	750	...	...
Mija Road	15,747	4,186	...	757
Nahwai	1,519	...	...	...
Allahabad	48,683	11,365	1,874	3,395
harwari	7,819	375	760	1,502
Sirathu	4,551	1,125	...	1,152
Shiurajpur	763	...	...	...
Other places	376	...	...	...
Total	80,212	18,178	2,634	6,806
<i>Futehpur District.</i>				
Bindki	14,387	1,962	4,941	1,507

STATION TO WHICH CON- SIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
NORTH-WESTERN PROV- INCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Cawnpore District.</i>				
Cawnpore City ...	98,071	18,405	18,444	15,981
<i>Etawah District.</i>				
Phaphund ...	2,643	759	874	...
Bharthna ...	888	...	...	...
Etawah ...	19,017	3,826	2,858	754
Jasawantnagar ...	3,014	1,156	...	...
Total ...	25,062	5,741	3,280	754
<i>Farukhabad District.</i>				
Farukhabad ...	...	373	...	...
Kanauj ...	381	...	...	...
Total ...	381	373	...	...
<i>Mainpuri District.</i>				
Kaurara ...	3,782	1,157	...	...
Shakohabad ...	1,966	381	879	...
Total ...	5,748	1,538	379	...
<i>Agra District.</i>				
Firozabad ...	12,016	762	762	813
Agra ...	20,578	2,272	748	1,124
Total ...	32,593	3,034	1,510	1,937
<i>Sitapur District.</i>				
Sitapur ...	879	...	...	...
<i>Muttra District.</i>				
Muttra ...	2,331	392	377	858
<i>Allyghur District.</i>				
Sikandra Rao ...	753	...	...	...
Hattrees ...	21,967	2,277	...	870
Allyghur ...	6,414	1,486	...	...
Total ...	28,834	3,713	...	870
<i>Bulandshahr District.</i>				
Secundrabad ...	...	...	...	877
Khurja ...	5,808	877	...	...
Dibal ...	756	...	...	...
Total ...	6,064	877	...	877

STATION TO WHICH CON-SIGNED.		Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1		2	3	4	5
NORTH-WESTERN PROV. INCES AND OUDH		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>—contd.</i>					
<i>Meerut District.</i>					
Ghaziabad	...	566	...	884	375
Meerut	...	6,851	1,126	1,181	5,016
Total	...	7,417	1,126	1,515	5,391
<i>Banda District.</i>					
Banda	...	1,187	...	1,891	...
Bargarh	...	742	888	1,119	...
Manikpur	...	884	875	374	380
Kurwi	...	1,145	425	1,538	373
Total	...	3,458	1,188	4,917	753
<i>Moradabad District.</i>					
Moradabad	...	...	877	891	381
Chundowai	...	782	877	...	4,482
Total	...	782	754	891	4,863
<i>Azimgarh District.</i>					
Shahganj	...	7,558	754	881	...
<i>Bareilly District.</i>					
Aonla	...	1,510	805	383	...
Bareilly	...	2,711	1,129	4,900	7,946
Total	...	4,221	1,934	5,283	7,946
<i>Jaunpur District.</i>					
Jaunpur	...	14,496	5,259	...	1,517
<i>Shajehanpur District.</i>					
Shajehanpur	...	4,180	748	404	...
Tilhar	...	5,061	765	419	2,098
Auji	...	2,684	875	...	1,178
Total	...	11,925	1,888	823	3,876
<i>Eta District.</i>					
Kashganj	...	754	...	...	...
<i>Lucknow District.</i>					
Lucknow	...	17,199	3,781	1,159	2,622
Alamnagar	...	7,976	2,097	...	371
Kakori	...	1,491	896	...	...
Malihabad	...	754	...	...	...
Total	...	27,420	6,874	1,159	2,993
<i>Pilibhit District.</i>					
Pilibhit	...	...	...	...	875

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
NORTH-WESTERN PRO- VINCES AND OUDH— concl'd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Fyzabad District.</i>				
Radhauli	1,133	375	1,528	378
Fyzabad	9,146	4,950	1,916	3,773
Ajodhya	762	375	...	...
Gosainganj ... ..	...	405	...	...
Total	11,041	6,105	3,444	4,151
<i>Sultanpur District.</i>				
Akbarpur	1,150	748	...	748
<i>Bara Banki District.</i>				
Duryabad ... ..	...	...	878	...
Bara Banki	3,415	395	...	377
Safdarganj	8,795	1,891	2,049	...
Total	12,210	2,286	2,427	377
<i>Hardai District.</i>				
Palamau ... ..	...	876	...	...
Hardai	6,104	1,966	376	...
Baghauli	5,498	1,132	...	...
Sandila	1,138	370	...	...
Total	12,735	3,844	376	...
<i>Bijnor District.</i>				
Nagina ... ..	...	...	...	375
Najibabad ... ..	...	...	...	375
Bijnor ... ..	...	1,124	...	...
Total ... ..	...	1,124	...	750
<i>Hamirpur District.</i>				
Mahoba	399	...	...	374
Other places	14,099	...	...	...
TOTAL OF THE NORTH- WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	4,98,124	1,07,729	54,800	71,787
PANJAB.				
<i>Delhi District.</i>				
Delhi	89,817	10,989	4,892	10,206
<i>Jullundur District.</i>				
Jullundur City	8	...	...	...
<i>Umballa District.</i>				
Umballa City	402	...	498	377

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
PANJAB—conold.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Gurgaon District.</i>				
Gurgaon ...	...	376	...	376
Rewari ...	12,795	1,556	2,660	5,787
Total ...	12,795	1,932	2,660	6,163
Other places ...	12,187	4,126	3,394	5,045
TOTAL OF THE PANJAB ...	65,204	17,053	11,384	22,391
CENTRAL PROVINCES.				
Katni ...	...	...	...	382
Jubbulpur ...	...	...	...	750
Peparia ...	...	...	...	748
Kareli ...	...	...	...	375
Other places ...	1,145	481	383	...
Total ...	1,145	481	383	2,255
RAJPUTANA AND CEN- TRAL INDIA.				
Dholpur ...	...	...	...	1,128
Ajmere ...	...	...	376	...
Sutna ...	3,096	378	1,125	1,131
Mhow ...	147	769	379	...
Ulwar ...	392	379	381	...
Indore ...	750	...	...	...
Jeypore ...	378	...	...	...
Bawal ...	378	...	377	385
Harphulpur ...	383	...	388	...
Other places ...	...	2,322	...	...
Total ...	5,524	3,848	3,026	2,642
Hyderabad ...	378	778	...	...
BERAR.				
Malkapur ...	26	...	...	...
Khamgaon ...	66	...	...	...
Akola ...	53	...	...	...
Amraoti ...	66	...	...	...
Total ...	211	...	...	886
Unspecified places ...	15,320	10,284	4,914	8,346
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,80,370	1,58,316	92,590	1,34,974
ABSTRACT.				
Total of Bengal ...	4,442	1,659	904	562
" " Bihar ...	94,210	16,484	16,808	26,625
" " Chota Nagpur ...	812	...	376	...
" " the North-Western Provinces and Oudh ...	4,93,124	1,07,729	54,800	71,767
" " the Panjab ...	65,204	17,053	11,384	22,391
" " Rajputana and Cen- tral India ...	5,524	3,848	3,026	2,642
" " Central Provinces ...	1,145	481	383	2,255
" " Hyderabad ...	378	778	...	...
" " Berar ...	211	...	...	...
" " Unspecified places ...	15,320	10,284	4,914	8,346
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,80,370	1,58,316	92,590	1,34,974

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Calcutta (Chitpur, Kadderpore Docks and Port Trust Railway) by rail from 31st January to 20th February 1897.

Station to which consigned.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4
BIHAR.			
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Bhagalpur— Ghoga	870	.....
Patna— Patna	2,490	1,500
Mokameh	378	.....
Digha ghat	378	.....	378
Total	378	2,868	1,878
Gaya— Gaya	381
Shahabad— Arrah	370
Darbhanga— Darbhanga	378	.....
Muzaffarpur— Muzaffarpur	392	756	.....
Champaran— Bettiah	756	762
Motihari	378	.....
Total	1,134	762
Saran— Chapra	3,391	1,883
Revelganj	370	.....
Saran	370	2,290
Ekma	810
Total	4,131	4,913
Total of Bihar	770	9,637	3,304
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.			
Ghazipur— Tarighat	370	.....
Sakaldiha	378	.....
Total	748	.....
Benares— Benares	1,504	5,312	370
Gorakhpur— Gorakhpur	378	.....
Tahsil Deoria	378	.....
Chaurichaura	370
Total	756	370
Basti— Basti	1,134	1,496
Khalilabad	378	.....
Uska Bazar	748	370
Total	2,260	1,866

Station to which consigned.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH—contd.			
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Gonda—			
Gonda	1,504	1,890	726
Nawabganj ... ..	.....	.....	748
Total	1,504	1,890	1,474
Bahraich—			
Bahraich ... ..	.....	878	.....
Mirzapur—			
Mirzapur	8,407	6,480	370
Ahaura Road ... ..	.....	1,139	.....
Chunar ... ..	.....	378	.....
Total	8,407	7,997	370
Allahabad—			
Mija Road	748	2,240	2,640
Allahabad	7,626	10,570	4,479
Manauri ... ..	.....	378	.....
Naini ... ..	.....	370	.....
Bharwari	756	378	378
Sirathu ... ..	.....	1,510	1,129
Jaera ... ..	.....	370	378
Total	9,180	15,816	9,004
Fatehpur—			
Khaga	378	381	.....
Bindki	1,184	5,351	3,361
Total	1,512	5,732	3,361
Cawnpore—			
Cawnpore	7,709	16,761	13,502
Etawah—			
Phaphund	387	378	1,126
Etawah	1,898	1,890	2,013
Bharthna ... ..	.....	.....	378
Total	2,285	2,268	3,517
Manipuri—			
Kaurara ... ..	.....	378	.....
Agra—			
Agra ... ..	.....	768	684
Ferozabad ... ..	.....	878	392
Total ... ..	.....	1,196	1,076
Muttra—			
Muttra ... ..	.....	370	.....
Allyghur—			
Hatirass ... ..	.....	378	.....
Bulandshahar—			
Khurja ... ..	.....	1,512	1,188
Debal ... ..	.....	756	.....
Secundrabad	870	.....	.....
Total	370	2,268	1,188

Station to which consigned.				Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 19th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1				2	3	4
Meerut—				Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Ghaziabad	...	...	...	875	878	.....
Meerut	...	...	...	870	8,016	1,128
Total	...	...	...	745	3,994	1,126
Banda—						
Banda	...	...	...	381	1,890	1,134
Kurwi	...	...	...	748	1,882	1,604
Total	...	...	...	1,129	3,772	2,638
Moradabad—						
Chandowale	...	...	...	1,515	1,128	1,506
Moradabad	...	...	...	.....	756	.....
Total	...	...	...	1,515	1,884	1,506
Azimgarh—						
Shahganj	...	...	...	1,514	3,012	1,110
Bareilly—						
Bareilly	...	...	...	1,488	2,698	1,139
Aonla	...	...	...	432	748	.....
Total	...	...	...	1,920	3,386	1,139
Jaunpur—						
Jaunpur	...	...	...	2,271	3,783	5,262
Shahjehanpur—						
Aujhi	...	...	...	.....	758	762
Shahjehanpur	...	...	...	380	880	1,132
Tilhar	...	...	...	370	758	970
Total	...	...	...	750	1,896	2,864
Lucknow—						
Lucknow	...	...	...	2,269	5,690	1,882
Alamnagar	...	...	...	756	3,463	356
Kakori	...	...	...	.....	.....	378
Total	...	...	...	3,025	9,093	2,616
Pilibhit—						
Pilibhit	...	...	...	.....	378	763
Fyzabad—						
Fyzabad	...	...	...	3,010	3,779	2,622
Ajodhya	...	...	...	756	378	.....
Radhauli	...	...	...	756	1,128	.....
Gossainganj	...	...	...	.....	.....	384
Total	...	...	...	4,522	5,285	3,006
Sultanpur—						
Akbarpur	...	...	...	.....	370	.....
Bara Banki—						
Bara Banki	...	...	...	.....	750	378
Safdarganj	...	...	...	2,268	6,151	756
Total	...	...	...	2,268	6,901	1,134
Hardai—						
Hardai	...	...	...	1,131	3,449	870
Baghauli	...	...	...	.....	756	878
Sandila	...	...	...	.....	878	.....
Total	...	...	...	1,131	4,583	748

Station to which consigned.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH—concl'd.			
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Sitapur— Sitapur ... ..	.....	378	748
Jhansi— Jhansi ... ..	.....	756	.....
Hamirpur— Mahoba	378	378	756
Lalitpur— Lalitpur ... ..	.....	378	.....
Bijnour— Dhampur Najibabad .. ..	..... .....	..... .....	370 758
Total	.....	.....	1,128
Kheri— Lakshmipur ... ..	.....	.....	378
Total of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh	48,689	1,18,978	63,020
PANJAB.			
Delhi— Delhi	1,134	5,281	5,768
Amritsar— Amritsar ... ..	.....	740	.....
Umballa— Umballa ... ..	.....	748	1,118
Gurgaon— Faraknagar Rowari ... ..	..... .....	378 .....	..... 378
Total	.....	378	378
Other places in the Panjab	2,994	3,408	748
Total of the Panjab	4,128	10,555	8,007
CENTRAL PROVINCES.			
Bargarh ... ..	.....	370	.....
Katni	740	1,118	.....
Schora Road	370	758	.....
Jubbulpur	1,497	3,783	2,248
Kampti ... ..	.....	378	378
Nagpur	756	1,545	756
Tamsar Road ... ..	.....	378	.....
Karoli	370	756	385
Paparia	378	378	378
Burhanpur ... ..	.....	370	.....
Gadarwara ... ..	.....	.....	740
Saugar ... ..	.....	.....	380
Other places in the Central Provinces	.....	.....	.....
Total of the Central Provinces	4,051	9,834	5,949

Station to which consigned.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.
1	2	3	4
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
RAJPUTANA AND CENTRAL INDIA.			
Jeypur ... ..	.....	.....	378
Neemuch ... ..	.....	378	...
Ujjain	381	.....	.....
Jaitwar	378	.....	.....
Indore	756	.....	.....
Sutna ... ..	.....	2,650	378
Other places in Rajputana and Central India ...	.....	.....	.....
Total of Rajputana and Central India ...	1,515	3,028	756
Unspecified places	4,512	8,825	8,784
GRAND TOTAL ...	63,665	1,55,857	89,820
ABSTRACT.			
Total of Bihar	770	9,637	8,304
" North-Western Provinces and Oudh ...	48,589	1,13,978	63,020
" the Panjab	4,128	10,555	8,907
" Central Provinces	4,051	9,834	8,949
" Rajputana and Central India ...	1,515	3,028	756
" Unspecified places	4,512	8,825	8,784
GRAND TOTAL ...	63,665	1,55,857	89,820

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 1st March 1897.

Burdwan.—No rain. Weather getting much warmer. A considerable amount of ploughing was done after the late rain, but the ground is again becoming hard. Prospect of *rabi* crops fair. State of cattle fair. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling as follows:—

			Srs. c.	Srs. c.	
Sadar	10 0 to 12 0	} per rupee.
Kalna	10 8 to 11 0	
Katwa	10 15 to 11 2	
Baniganj	10 4	

Birbhum.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Sugarcane crushing nearly finished; outturn poor. Price of rice at Sadar 9½ seers, and Rampur Hât 11½ seers per rupee.

Bankura.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Pressing of sugarcane continues. Ploughing going on in places, but more rain is wanted. Fodder everywhere sufficient. Water insufficient in a few places. Cow-pox reported. Rice selling at Bankura 11½ seers and Vishnupur 11 seers per rupee.

Midnapore.—No rain. Weather hot. Prospect of indigo good. *Rabi* crops are still being gathered. Threshing of *aman* going on. *Boro* is being sown in Binpur and Gopiballavpur. Cattle-disease reported from Salbani, Naraingarh, Khespur, Binpur, and Benapura. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling as follows:—

			Srs.		
Sadar	11	} per rupee.
Contai	12 to 13	
Tamluk	10½	
Ghatal	10½ to 12½	

Hooghly.—No rain. Want of rain felt throughout the district. *Rabi* suffers for want of moisture. Common rice sells from 8 to 11 seers per rupee.

Howrah.—Rainfall nil. Weather hot with clouds. Prospects of *rabi* not good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells from 8½ to 10 seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—No rain. Weather warmer with cloud. Prospects of standing crops poor. Ploughing going on for the next crops, but rain wanted. Fodder and water sufficient. Some cattle-disease in Budge-Budge thana. Prices slightly fallen. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs. c.		
Sadar	9 to 10 8	} per rupee.
Barasat	10 0	
Basirhat	10 8	
Diamond Harbour	10 10	

Murshidabad.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospect of *rabi* crops not favourable. Indigo and mulberry doing well. Pressing of sugarcane still continues. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs.		
Sadar	10½	} per rupee.
Jangipur	10½	
Kandi	11	

Four test-works open.

Jessore.—No rain. Weather hot in the day, nights cool; generally clear; occasionally foggy in the morning. Harvesting of *rabi* crops almost over. Lands are being prepared for cultivation of *aus*, but more rain is wanted badly. Fodder and water available. Sporadic cases of cattle-disease reported from Bangaon. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs. c.		
Jessore	10½ to 11 8	} per rupee.
Jhenida	10 0	
Magura	9½ to 10 0	
Narail	10 10½	
Bangaon	10 0	

Khulna.—No rain. Weather getting hot. *Boro* doing well. Rain wanted. Sowing of *til* going on. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	
Khulna	...	...	...	10 to 12	} per rupee.
Bagerhat	...	...	...	12	
Satkhira	...	...	...	9½	

Numbers employed on four relief-works—

			Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	...	...	422	nil	85	507
Dependants	...	...			Not ascertainable.	
Otherwise relieved	...	...	159	628	313	1,100
					Total	1,607

Wages calculated at 10 seers per rupee. No cattle-disease. Fodder available. Water getting scarce.

Rajshahi.—No rain. Prospects of standing *rabi* crops very poor. Transplantation of *boro* not yet finished. Lands are being prepared for *bhadoi* rice and jute. Sowing of jute commenced in some places. Fodder available everywhere. Scarcity of drinking-water reported from some places. Common rice selling from 9 to 11 seers per rupee. Two test-works open. Numbers employed on Saturday, 27th February—

			Men.	Women.	Children	Total.
Test-workers	...	...	560	Nil	25	585

Price of rice at relief-works, 10 seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—No rain. Weather somewhat hot in day, cool at night. Condition of standing crops fair. No report of any cattle-disease, nor any complaint for fodder and water. Price of common rice, 9 to 12 seers per rupee.

Jalpaiguri.—No rain. Days warm, nights cool. Preparation of land for *betri* paddy going on. Harvesting of mustard and some other *rabi* crops commenced. Prospect of tobacco fair. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice, 8½ seers per rupee.

Darjeeling.—Rainfall at Sadar 01. Weather seasonable. Hills—Wheat and barley coming to perfection; *tori* and potatoes being harvested. *Bhutia* being planted. Terai.—*Haimanti* dhan being threshed; ploughing for jute and *bhadoi* dhan going on. Price of coarse rice:—

				Srs.	
Hills	...	...	...	9	} per rupee.
Terai	...	...	...	9 to 11	

Bhutia, 13 to 20 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—No rain. Lands mostly prepared for *aus* and jute and sowing going on. Rain wanted. Harvesting of mustard finished; prospects fair. Common rice selling at 9 to 10 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Bogra.—No rain. Weather growing warm. *Cheena* suffering for want of rain. Sowing of *kaun* retarded. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling at head-quarters 10 seers 14 chitaks per rupee and in the interior from 8½ to 12 seers per rupee.

Pabna.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops fair. Rice sells at 8 to 10 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient. Numbers on Saturday, 27th February—

			Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Test-workers	...	...	47	Nil	6	53

Dacca.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. No change in the prospect of standing crops. Fodder available. There is want of drinking-water in some parts of the district. No cattle-disease. Common rice sells at 10 to 11 seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—No rain. Weather clear; warm days, cool nights. Lands under cultivation for *aus* paddy and jute. Pulses reported to be doing well. Average price of common rice 10 seers per rupee. Drinking-water sufficient at present.

Faridpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects as before. Rain wanted. Common rice selling at 9½ to 11 seers per rupee. Fodder and water available.

Backergunge.—No rain. Days hot, nights cool. Prospects of spring crops not fair. Common rice sells from 9 to 12 seers per rupee.

Tippera.—No rain. Weather cool with intermittent foggy mornings. Rain badly wanted to facilitate ploughing. Fodder and water available. Price of rice:—

	Srs. c.	Srs.
Sadar	...	9 8 to 11 0
Brahmanbaria	...	10 10 to 12 0
Chandpur	...	10 8 to 11 4

per rupee.

Noakhali.—No rain. Prospects not good. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water available. Price of rice, 9 to 11 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—No rain. Weather unusually dry. Rain badly wanted for *rabi* crops. Water and fodder sufficient. Rice selling at 8 to 10 seers per rupee. Sporadic cattle-disease reported.

Patna.—No rain. Prospects of *rabi* continue assuring. Landing of poppy progressing favourably. *Rabi* crops are being harvested. Fodder and water for cattle sufficient. Prices in Barh rising slightly. Price of common rice at Patna, 11 seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 27th February—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dependants	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Relieved in poor-houses	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Otherwise relieved...	14	36	11	61

Gaya.—No rain. Harvesting of *rabi* continues; outturn good. Price of common rice at Sadar, 9½ seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—No rain. *Rabi* harvest in progress. Poppy prospect continues favourable. Prices stationary. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 27th February—

Bhabua subdivision—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-works	492	493	300	1,225
Gratuitous relief	959	1,982	1,474	4,415

Sasaram subdivision—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Gratuitous relief	210	80	35	325

Total ... 5,965

Saran.—No rain. Harvesting of *rahar*, peas, barley, and mustard commenced. Indigo and sugarcane being sown. Average price of *makai* 10 seers 1 chitak per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 27th February—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—				
Relief-workers	817	926	1,234	2,977
Dependants	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Relieved in poor-houses	51	81	27	109
Otherwise relieved	1,258	5,221	1,110	7,589
Test-workers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Siwan subdivision—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	1,137	1,958	980	4,075
Dependants	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Relieved in poor-houses	11	20	24	55
Otherwise relieved	635	2,019	522	3,176
Test-workers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Gopalganj subdivision—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	2,413	2,559	2,768	7,740
Gratuitous relief	1,366	3,564	1,445	6,375

Total ... 82,096

Hatwan relief-works 5,814; poor-houses 454; doles 327.
Manjha poor-house 47; doles 149.

Champaram.—No rain. No change in prices. *Rabi* and poppy doing well. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 27th February—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-works ...	55,879	47,882	27,043	130,804
Gratuitous relief ...	7,605	15,427	16,415	39,447

Muzaffarpur.—No rain. Prospects good. *Rabi* crops ripening. Prices are—Burma rice 9 seers, common rice $8\frac{1}{2}$ seers, wheat 8 seers, *makai* $10\frac{1}{2}$ seers, barley 12 seers, gram 11 seers, *rahar* $11\frac{1}{2}$ seers. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 27th February—

Sadar subdivision—

(Figures for three circles in Sadar and Paru thanas not received.)

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers ...	5,412	1,635	786	7,833
Dependants ...	4	9	18	31
Relieved in poor-houses ...	40	1	1	42
Otherwise relieved ...	656	1,589	1,343	3,588
Sitamarhi subdivision—				
Relief-workers ...	1,552	591	355	2,498
Dependants ...	1	9	79	89
Relieved in poor-houses ...	96	68	100	264
Otherwise received ...	1,845	2,556	2,655	7,056
Hajipur subdivision—				
Relief-workers ...	2,188	2,213	1,924	6,325
Otherwise relieved ...	36	93	20	149
Total ...				27,875

Darbhanga.—No rain. Harvesting of rapeseed almost completed and of peas in progress. *Rahar* attaining maturity. Prospects of other standing *rabi* crops fair. Common rice selling at 9 seers per rupee, and *makai* 10 seers. Numbers on relief on Saturday, the 27th February—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—				
Relief-workers ...	17,501	20,210	4,018	41,729
Dependants ...	1,775	148	643	2,566
Relieved in poor-houses ...	29	13	12	54
Otherwise relieved ...	6,292	15,710	8,815	30,817
Samastipur subdivision—				
Relief-workers ...	1,680	1,966	571	4,217
Dependants ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.
Relieved in poor-houses ...	13	7	2	22
Otherwise relieved ...	203	472	399	1,074
Test-workers ...	82	128	78	288
Madhubani subdivision—				
Relief-workers ...	14,480	13,238	6,063	33,781
Relieved-in poor-houses ...	14	7	6	27
Otherwise relieved ...	4,218	12,951	8,349	25,518
Total ...				140,093

Darbhanga Raj—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-works ...	15,067	4,984	1,849	21,900
Gratuitous relief ...	2,009	4,853	3,656	10,518

The figures for the district as regards relief-works are incomplete, as many public works in Mudhubani have not sent in returns.

Monghyr.—No rain. Strong west wind during the latter part of the week. Standing crops doing very well. Prospect of *rabi* excellent. Harvesting commenced. Cattle-disease in Begusarai thana. Sufficient fodder and water. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs. c.
Monghyr ...	9 to 11 0
Begusarai ...	9 11
Jamui ...	8 to 10 0

per rupee.

Bhagalpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable; wind westerly. *Rabi* crops are approaching maturity. Harvesting will be general after 15 days. Peas are being already harvested. Prospect of *mahua* crop in Banka favourable. The price of *kurti* in the Sadar subdivision is $13\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee and in the Supaul subdivision 15 seers. The price of *marua* in Supaul has fallen from 14 to $14\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee. The price of common rice in Madhipura remains

stationary at 10 seers: it remains stationary in other places also, viz., Sadar 10 seers 2 chittacks, Banka 10 seers 10 chittacks, Supaul 10 seers. Fodder and water sufficient. Some cattle-disease reported. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 27th February—

Madhipura subdivision—	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief worker ...	3,254	2,051	898	6,203
Dependants ...	Nil	Nil	319	319
Supaul subdivision—				
Relief-workers ...	571	711	305	1,587
Dependants ...	5	1	45	51
Total				8,160

Purnea.—No rain. Mustard and tobacco harvest proceeds; outturn good. Prospect of standing *rabi* crops fair. Molasses being manufactured at Kishanganj. Lands being ploughed for next *bhados* crop. Sporadic cases of cattle-disease reported from Araria. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	9½	} per rupee.
Kishanganj	10	
Araria	11	

Malda.—No rain. Weather getting warm. No change in the prospect of crops. Common rice selling at 8½ to 11½ seers per rupee. No cattle-disease. Fodder sufficient. Want of drinking-water reported from Shibganj, Gomastapur, and Nawabganj thanas.

Sonthal Parganas.—No rain. Weather clear with west wind. *Rabi* doing well. *Mahua* promises well. Mango in flower. Price of common rice 8½ seers per rupee at Rajmahal and 10 to 11 seers elsewhere; of maize 11 to 14 seers. Fodder beginning to fail. Water-supply fair. Jamtara private works open; test-works opened, but accounts not clear; Godda works not attended; Deoghur proposed.

Cuttack.—Rainfall nil. *Dalua* doing well. Condition of men and cattle generally good. Rice only available in places in small quantities. Price of common rice—

	Srs. a.	
Cuttack	11 13	} per rupee.
Jajpur	14 7	
Kendrapara	14 7	
Banki	15 12	

Balasore.—No rain. *Sarad* rice being threshed. *Dalua* crop flourishing, and is in ear in places. Sugarcane being pressed. Price of rice varies from 12 to 14 seers per rupee in the interior. Rice sells at 12 and 14 seers per rupee at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Fodder and water sufficient.

Angul.—No rain. Cultivators engaged in ploughing their fields and planting sugarcane. Day-labourers have found work in field since the late rain. Condition of people good. Cattle-disease continues. Fodder sufficient. Price of coarse rice, 16 seers per rupee in Angul and 13½ seers in Khondmals. Coarse rice sells at 11 seers per rupee at head-quarters of Angul Sadar subdivision only.

Puri.—No rain. *Dalua*, *mandia*, and *mug* grow fairly well. Land being ploughed for next rice crop. Fodder and grain scarce in tracts adjoining Chilka. Price of common rice stationary.

Hazaribagh.—No rain. Weather hot for the season. Paddy-fields are being ploughed. Rice selling at 8 to 9 seers per rupee. Preparations are being made to start relief works.

Lohardaga.—No rain. Ploughing continues. State of standing crops good. Rice sells at 8 seers per rupee at Banchi and 8 to 12 seers in the interior. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease reported from some police-stations. Grain in stock sufficient for the present.

Palamau.—Rainfall nil. Weather cold. *Rabi* doing well and ripening. Eight-annas yield expected. *Mahua* backward. Prices risen further. Sixty-three markets selling below 9 seers, against 57 markets last week; 17 markets against 21 at 9 seers; 10 markets against 12 below 10 seers. Six hundred and fifty-eight maunds bounty rice arrived; price asked 8 seers 11½ chittaks (since reduced to 9 seers); sales slow in consequence. Numbers on relief—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers ...	1,687	1,282	980	3,949
Otherwise relieved ...	92	117	44	253

Manbhum.—No rain. Weather seasonable, Sugarcane being transplanted in places. Cattle-disease reported from thanas Raghunathpur, Barabazar, Chas, Chandil, and Purulia. Fodder and drinking water sufficient at present. Average price of common rice 10 seers per rupee at Sadar and 9½ seers at Govindpur. Stock of food-grains sufficient at present. 1,921 men, 1,321 women, and 250 children—total 3,492—on nine test relief-works on 27th February. Details of those on gratuitous relief not available, but such persons between 4 and 5 thousand.

Singhbhum.—No rain. Rice plentiful. Price of rice 8 to 12 seers per rupee.

General Summary.—There was no rain during the week. The *rabi* crops are maturing, and are being harvested in some parts. In Bihar the *rabi* crops continue to promise well, but in the rest of the Province (except in portions of the Rajshahi and Ohota Nagpur Divisions) the prospects are poor. Spring rice is doing well, having been benefited by the late rain. The ploughing of lands for the early rice and jute is going on, but more rain is required. The prospects of opium in Bihar are very favourable. Tobacco is reported to be a good crop. Sugarcane pressing continues. Fodder-supply is generally sufficient. Scarcity of drinking-water is reported from some districts. The prices of food-grains have fluctuated slightly in some districts. In the distressed districts the prices of the staple grain on which the famine wage is based are—Nadia (common rice) return not received, Khulna (common rice) 10 seers, Rajshahi (common rice) 10 seers, Patna (common rice) 11 seers, Shahabad 10½ seers, Saran (Indian-corn) 10 seers 1 chitak, Champaran (Indian-corn) 10 seers, Muzaffarpur (Indian-corn) 10½ seers, Darbhanga (Indian-corn) 10 seers, Bhagalpur (common rice) 10 seers. There was a slight fall in the price of Indian-corn in Saran and Muzaffarpur.

The numbers on relief on Saturday, the 27th February, were —

Nadia	...	Return not received.
Khulna	...	1,607
Rajshahi	...	585
Pabna	...	53
Patna	...	61
Shahabad	...	5,965
Saran	...	32,096
Champaran	...	170,251
Muzaffarpur	...	27,875
Darbhanga	...	140,093 (incomplete.)
Bhagalpur	...	8,160
Palamau	...	4,202
Manbhum	...	3,492

Total 394,440, against 411,530 in the previous week.

This total is distributed as follows:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	109,485	97,655	48,310	255,450
Dependants	1,785	167	1,104	3,056
Relieved in poor-houses	254	147	172	573
Otherwise relieved	25,548	62,445	42,950	130,943
Test-workers	2,610	1,449	359	4,418

Private relief—

Relief-works—
Darbhanga Raj ... 21,900 (men 15,067, women 4,984, children 1,849).
Hatwa ... 5,814.

Gratuitous relief—
Darbhanga Raj ... 10,518 (men 2,009, women 4,853, children 3,656).
Hatwa ... 781.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

The 2nd March, 1897.

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 21st to 27th February 1897.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1897.				Inches.						Inches.					Inches.	
Feb.	21st	141.7	9.2	29.988	72.7	85.6	24.4	61.2	64.2	0.491	58.4	65	W S W and S S W	■	Nil	Morning, partially cloudy, day and night clear, o.
	22nd	140.7	7.3	29.928	72.1	85.9	27.7	58.2	62.7	0.445	55.7	62	W N W and W by S.	85	"	Clear, a
	23rd	139.4	6.6	29.850	72.8	86.9	28.0	58.9	62.6	0.433	54.9	59	W N W, W S W, and S W by S.	100	"	Clear, a
	24th	142.7	7.7	29.882	74.0	89.9	29.4	60.5	65.7	0.525	60.3	67	S W by S and W S W.	104	"	Clear, a
	25th	143.2	7.0	29.855	78.7	91.6	20.9	70.7	73.6	0.762	71.1	78	W S W and S S W.	134	"	Morning partially cloudy, day and night clear, o.
	26th	139.5	6.5	29.823	73.8	85.4	16.0	69.4	59.0	0.304	45.3	37	N N W, W N W, and W.	110	"	Clear.
	27th	141.6	9.5	29.860	71.9	86.7	20.1	57.6	58.6	0.317	46.4	41	S W by S and variable.	46	"	Clear, a

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	Inches.
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	29.877
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	Hours.
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	...	...	...	54.0
				80.8
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	73.7
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	75.3
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	34.0
The maximum temperature	...	...	...	91.6
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	...	...	...	Miles.
				9
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	%
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	58
				64
The total fall of rain from 21st to 27th February 1897	...	...	...	Inches.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	Nil
The total fall from 1st January to 27th February 1897	...	...	...	0.11
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	1.63
				1.40
The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h. and 22h.				
The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Alipore Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed, open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.				
The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.				
The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.				
The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.				
The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.				

o, overcast; a, dew; = fog.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 1st March 1897.J. H. GILLILAND,
For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

Results of the Barometrical and Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee, from 21st to 27th February 1897.

LOGICAL OFFICE, CHOWRINGHOO, CALCUTTA.													
Month.	Date.	Pressure at 10 A.M. corrected and reduced to 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.						HYGROMETRY.			Rainfall, past 24 hours.	
			Daily mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Dry bulb at 10 A.M.	Wet bulb at 10 A.M.	Vapour tension at 10 A.M.	Dew point at 10 A.M.	Humidity at 10 A.M.		
1897.		Inches.	°		°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%	Inches.	
February	21st	30.008	75.2	88.0	25.6	62.4	78.6	70.6	.643	66.1	66	Nil	
"	22nd	30.018	74.1	88.2	28.3	59.9	78.0	66.1	.483	58.0	50	"	
"	23rd	29.916	74.5	88.8	28.6	60.2	79.8	65.6	.449	56.0	45	"	
"	24th	29.950	77.2	91.5	28.6	62.4	79.2	72.0	.680	68.2	69	"	
"	25th	29.930	82.0	93.1	22.3	70.8	81.6	75.5	.803	72.6	74	"	
"	26th	29.917	77.4	87.4	20.0	67.4	77.6	63.6	.402	53.0	42	"	
"	27th	29.931	73.9	88.3	29.9	58.9	79.8	61.2	.294	44.6	29	"	
												Inches.	

The mean 10 A.M. pressure of the seven days ... 29.954

The mean temperature of the seven days ... 76.3

The extreme variation of temperature ... 34.9

The maximum temperature ... 98.1

The mean 10 A.M. relative humidity of the seven days ... 54%

The total fall of rain from 21st to 27th February 1897 ... Nil

The daily mean temperatures are the crude means of maximum and minimum temperatures.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL,
The 1st March 1897.

C. LITTLE,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 27th February 1897, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 27TH FEBRUARY 1897.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 26TH FEBRUARY 1896.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy	604	1,84,816	3,204	578	1,92,625	3,205
Jute	43	22,251	351	97	41,975	700
Firewood	100	61,700	976	142	1,02,850	1,386
Other articles	833	2,57,766	3,866	832	1,85,974	2,677
Total	1,579	6,26,831	8,396	1,649	6,28,424	7,967

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 20th February 1897 on 1,699.70 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	318,886	Rs. A. P. 3,21,730 11 0	Mds. s. 37,73,985 0	Rs. A. P. 7,84,377 2 0	Rs. A. P. 20,225 0 0	Rs. A. P. 11,26,401 13 0	92,738	143,022	235,760
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	189 4 8	.....	461 7 8	11 15 0	662 11 4	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year ...	71,913,575	720,55,140 12 0	73,55,41,806 0	752,50,054 13 0	51,25,243 0 0	74,51,338 9 0	577,845	936,600	1,514,445
Total for 7½ weeks ...	2,232,461	23,76,880 7 0	2,03,15,771 0	60,35,351 15 0	1,45,525 0 0	85,27,740 6 0	670,601	1,080,232	1,750,833
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	235,243	3,65,775 8 1	37,41,968 30	7,61,226 6 8	20,443 3 7	11,47,506 3 5	51,227	153,724	204,951
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	215 2 3	.....	467 14 4	12 0 5	675 3 0	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 7½ weeks of previous year ...	2,516,104	26,63,070 12 11	2,90,61,933 20	58,99,094 1 0	1,42,101 11 11	66,65,466 9 10	663,059	1,10,978	1,768,303

* The decrease is chiefly due to pilgrim traffic in 1896.

† Deducted number of passengers 7,485 and Rs. 21,642.

‡ Ditto maunds 70,976 .. 748

§ Ditto .. 1,418

on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the first 9 days of January 1897.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 20th February 1897 on 161.40 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	17,546	Rs. A. P. 13,598 11 0	Mds. s. 53,808 30	Rs. A. P. 10,220 6 0	Rs. A. P. 81 0 9	Rs. A. P. 23,840 1 0	6,643	3,637	10,280
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	83 14 2	.....	63 5 2	0 8 0	147 11 4	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year ...	20,563	76,631 7 0	74,05,802 30	756,420 4 0	643 0 0	1,33,693 11 0	41,609	20,718	62,327
Total for 7½ weeks ...	116,174	90,370 2 0	4,59,605 10	66,640 10 0	523 0 0	1,57,533 12 0	48,243	24,532	72,775
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	17,220	13,687 0 3	60,874 30	8,570 12 1	30 7 0	22,297 3 3	4,539	3,286	7,825
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	84 12 10	.....	53 1 8	0 3 11	138 2 5	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 7½ weeks of previous year ...	120,845	90,537 10 11	5,32,665 0	66,975 14 1	376 7 9	1,66,880 0 9	60,023	24,266	84,289

* Deducted number of passengers 180 and

† Added maunds 3,600 and

Rs. 643 on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the first 9 days of January 1897.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 20th February 1897 on 22.23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	27,036	Rs. A. P. 8,555 5 0	Mds. s. 17,530 10	Rs. A. P. 601 2 0	Rs. A. P. 5 0 0	Rs. A. P. 7,551 7 0	1,008	160	1,168
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	386 6 1	.....	31 1 8	0 3 7	339 11 2	.....	.....	.....
For previous 52 weeks of half-year ...	113,898	73,179 8 0	707,624 10	33,532 13 0	546 0 0	36,058 5 0	6,901	679	7,580
Total for 7½ weeks ...	110,934	20,034 13 0	1,15,300 20	4,523 15 0	51 0 0	43,600 12 0	7,969	679	8,648
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	23,554	8,685 12 0	16,961 0	575 15 6	5 7 3	6,460 3 9	1,008	160	1,168
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	386 2 3	.....	26 14 7	0 6 1	291 8 1	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 7½ weeks of previous year ...	120,845	44,109 15 4	1,06,382 10	2,680 3 6	38 6 0	49,938 8 10	5,670	604	6,274

* The increase is chiefly in outward traffic.

† Added number of passengers 3,000 and Rs. 667

‡ Ditto maunds 833 and .. 2

§ Deducted .. 8

on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the first 9 days of January 1897.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BEHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 20th February 1897 on 814 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (including ferry).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	197,930	1,13,390 0 0	6,59,570 0	1,07,010 0 0	6,780 0 0	2,57,780 0 0	32,500	31,015	64,515
Or per mile of railway ...	243	139 0 0	810 0	132 0 0	1 0 0	317 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 6 weeks of half-year ...	1,213,860	6,68,440 0 0	41,75,030 0	7,35,340 0 0	65,380 0 0	14,69,000 0 0	197,510	195,511	392,921
Total for 7 weeks ...	1,411,790	7,81,830 0 0	51,34,600 0	8,42,950 0 0	72,060 0 0	16,86,840 0 0	230,010	227,324	457,334
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year ...	210,403	1,06,532 0 0	7,44,685 0	1,21,231 0 0	8,186 0 0	2,35,951 0 0	31,300	32,683	63,983
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	259	131 0 0	916 0	149 0 0	1 0 0	291 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	1,690,424	8,03,483 0 0	50,92,383 0	9,45,323 0 0	96,537 0 0	18,46,233 0 0	224,800	223,757	448,557

• Excluding steam-boat earnings.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 20th February 1897 on 125 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	36,011	14,175 0 0	74,502 0	4,131 0 0	94 0 0	18,400 0 0	4,770	3,202	6,972
Or per mile of railway ...	288	113 0 0	590 0	33 0 0	1 0 0	147 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 6 weeks of half-year ...	210,268	81,243 0 0	4,63,561 0	20,947 0 0	884 0 0	11,00,124 0 0	26,808	11,244	38,052
Total for 7 weeks ...	252,260	95,418 0 0	5,27,863 0	31,078 0 0	1,028 0 0	1,27,624 0 0	31,578	14,046	45,624
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	34,453	12,472 0 0	60,001 0	4,228 0 0	118 0 0	16,818 0 0	3,930	1,780	5,710
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	276	00 0 0	536 0	34 0 0	1 0 0	135 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	251,350	87,753 0 0	4,79,168 0	28,848 0 0	1,505 0 0	1,80,100 0 0	29,711	13,402	43,113

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 20th February 1897 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	21,730	6,390 0 0	24,580 0	2,580 0 0	300 0 0	9,290 0 0	2,502	742	3,244
Or per mile of railway ...	253	74 0 0	286 0	30 0 0	4 0 0	108 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 6 weeks of half-year ...	133,310	39,420 0 0	139,830 0	13,880 0 0	910 0 0	54,210 0 0	15,800	4,051	20,851
Total for 7 weeks ...	165,040	45,740 0 0	168,430 0	16,460 0 0	1,290 0 0	63,490 0 0	18,311	5,003	23,314
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year ...	23,577	7,897 0 0	26,297 0	2,403 0 0	64 0 0	10,423 0 0	2,451	1,015	3,466
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	274	91 0 0	306 0	29 0 0	1 0 0	121 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	190,064	55,731 0 0	204,377 0	18,887 0 0	1,341 0 0	79,389 0 0	18,895	5,975	24,870

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

(CHITTAGONG SECTION.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 13th February 1897 on 274 miles open for all descriptions of Traffic and an additional 12 miles for Goods Traffic only.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	17,795	9,899 0 0	1,40,054 0	6,450 0 0	831 0 0	10,780 0 0	3,677	7,512	11,189
per mile of railway ...	64'94	36'49 0 0	521'17 0	23'69 0 0	1'12 0 0	60'20 0 0	13'42	20'20	39'68
previous 51 weeks of half-year ...	96,309	53,928 0 0	10,44,966 0	45,954 0 0	2,411 0 0	1,02,293 0 0	20,140	34,778	54,918
Total for 6 weeks ...	1,14,004	63,927 0 0	11,94,022 0	52,414 0 0	2,732 0 0	1,19,073 0 0	23,817	42,290	66,107
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	85,113	30,948 6 6	55,765 0	2,064 5 0	140 13 0	33,106 8 6	4,608	1,656	6,264
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	323'45	197'09 0 0	861'58 0	13'37 0 0	50 0 0	211'26 0 0	29'35	10'55	39'90
Total for corresponding date of previous year ...	1,18,009	61,648 11 7	13,01,036 0	24,667 6 3	1,089 10 0	1,00,404 11 10	16,839	29,008	45,847

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 13TH FEBRUARY 1897.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 15TH FEBRUARY 1896.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1896 TO 13TH FEBRUARY 1897.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST JULY 1895 TO 15TH FEBRUARY 1896.			Total receipts in 1897.	Total decrease in 1897.
Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.		
Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
16,780	60'20	157	3,168	211'26	286	5,23,588	2,991'21	157	3,21,503	2,562'19		2,07,393	...

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

(INCLUDES TIRHUT STATE RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 13th February 1897 on 819 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Total traffic for the week on 819 miles open ...	97,300	(a) 30,920	4,52,460	(a) 57,580	14,430	(a) 1,11,040	16,130	(b) 21,458	36,588
per mile of railway ...	118'68	48'01	552'46	70'08	17'03	136'31	...	...	...
previous 51 weeks of half-year ...	513,810	2,16,590	29,63,710	2,88,830	72,290	5,77,000	81,394	1,07,868	189,262
Total for 61 weeks ...	610,710	2,53,910	27,04,170	3,46,710	86,710	6,89,330	90,470	1,20,421	210,891
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year: on 756 miles open ...	104,070	44,988	4,78,017	64,371	13,836	1,23,087	13,536	(c) 21,043	34,579
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	137'68	59'33	633'30	85'15	18'29	162'81	...	...	...
Total for corresponding date of previous year ...	660,289	2,79,698	31,11,731	4,20,710	86,631	7,08,239	90,741	1,51,677	242,418

(a) The decrease is due to slack traffic generally.

(b) Includes 1,020 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

(c) " 1,064 " " "

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

(INCLUDES TIRHUT STATE RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 20th February 1897, on 819 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES ETC.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 819 miles open ...	117,580	Rs. (a) 49,310	Mds. 4,75,485	Rs. (b) 58,488	Rs. (a) 15,460	1,33,238	15,466	(c) 19,923	35,389
Or per mile of railway ...	143'58	60'31	580'66	71'40	18'85	150'46	...	...	...
For previous 61 weeks of half-year ...	610,710	2,85,910	27,04,170	8,49,710	84,710	6,89,930	66,470	190,421	256,891
Total for 71 weeks ...	728,300	3,05,220	31,79,650	4,08,190	1,03,170	8,12,680	171,934	140,343	312,277
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 758 miles open ...	108,087	44,585	5,12,486	68,414	12,655	1,25,094	14,085	(d) 23,517	37,602
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	142'83	58'98	677'83	90'49	16'74	166'21	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	773,376	3,24,283	36,24,198	4,96,124	1,41,486	9,23,898	104,328	174,094	278,422

(a) Increase under Coaching and other earnings is due to brisker traffic.
 (b) Decrease under Goods is due to slack traffic.
 (c) Includes 1,015 miles of ballast trains run on open line.
 (d) " 1,812 " " "

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Approximate earnings for the week ending 20th February 1897 ...	10,519	0	0
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	11,648	4	9
Decrease ...	1,129	4	8
Receipts per mile for the week ending 20th February 1897 ...	206	4	1
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	228	6	4
Decrease ...	22	2	3
Receipts from 1st January to 20th February 1897 ...	90,915	0	0
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	84,481	0	0
Decrease ...	4,434	0	0



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1897.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

[Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.]

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
WATER-SUPPLY	711	ABSTRACT of the results of Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory in the month of February 1897	776
Distress in the Orissa Division	715	Abstract of the Results of the Barometrical and Thermometric Observations taken at 10 A.M. at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee, in the month of February 1897	777
Distress in the Chota Nagpur Division	723	Results of the Barometrical and Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee from 28th February to 6th March 1897	777
Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta	743	Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 28th February to 6th March 1897	776
Statistics of the Sea-Borne Traffic of Calcutta in Food-grains	744	Circular, and Eastern Canals for the week ending Saturday, the 6th March 1897	779
Statistics of the Sea-Borne Traffic of the minor ports in Bengal in Food-Grains	746	East Indian Railway for the month of January 1897	780
Exports of food-grains by the East Indian Railway	753	Bengal Central Railway for the month of December 1896	783
Weather and Crop Report for the week ending the 8th March 1897	764	Weekly return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways	784
Prices-current (retail) of Food-grains and salt in the headquarters station basars of the districts of Bengal on the 28th February 1897	770		

WATER-SUPPLY.

No. 1243 L.S.-G.—The 5th March 1897.—The following reports of the progress made in the several districts of the Dacca and Patna Divisions in collecting and placing on record the chief facts regarding water-supply are published for general information.

H. H. RISLEY.

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 2328 G., dated Dacca, the 22nd February 1897.

Memo. by—The Offg. Commissioner of the Dacca Division.

COPY of the following submitted to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department, in continuation of this office No. 1806 G., dated 4th January 1897.

No. 108 G., dated Barisal, the 13th February 1897.

From—N. D. BRATSON-BELL, Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Backergunge,
To—The Commissioner of the Dacca Division.

IN continuation of paragraph 3 of this office No. 962 G. of the 31st December last on the subject of improvement of water-supply, I have the honour to state that all the municipalities in this district have opened Registers I and II as prescribed by Government Circular No. 7 T.M., dated 15th May 1896. In Pirojpur and Patuakhali Municipalities the Registers have been completely written up and in the others steps are being taken to furnish details.

No. 115G., dated Bankipore, the 24th February 1897.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, Esq., Offg. Commissioner of the Patna Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular No. 58L.S.-G., dated the 12th December 1896, asking for a quarterly report on the progress made in each district of this Division in collecting and placing on record the chief facts regarding water-supply, and the steps, if any, that have been taken by Municipalities and District Boards, respectively, to improve existing sources of water-supply and to open new ones.

2. In reply, I beg to forward herewith in original the marginally-noted

1. Letter from the Chairman, District Board, Patna, No. 1173, dated 11th February 1897.

2. Letter from the Magistrate of Gaya, No. 17, dated 4th January 1897.

3. Letter from the Magistrate of Shahabad, No. 4820, dated 30th December 1896.

4. Letter from the Magistrate of Saran, No. 47, dated 9th January 1897.

5. Letter from the Magistrate of Muzaffarpur, No. 19, dated 7th January 1897.

6. Letter from the Chairman, District Board, Darbhanga, No. 698, dated 7th January 1897.

letters, being quarterly reports of the progress made in the several districts in this Division. The report from Champaran is not yet to hand. It will follow when received.

3. In a recent Circular I have already called the earnest attention of all District Officers to the great importance of protecting the purity of the water-supply during the next

few months, not only on relief works, but on all frequented roads and in the vicinity of all works.

No. 1173, dated Bankipore, the 11th February 1897.

From—T. INGLIS, Esq., Chairman of the District Board, Patna,
To—The Commissioner of the Patna Division.

WITH reference to your No. 518G. Circular, dated the 18th December last, giving cover to the Government Circular No. 58L.S.-G., dated the 12th idem, calling for a report on the progress made in water-supply in the district, I regret I am unable to submit a complete report in the forms appended to Government Circular No. 8T.M., dated the 15th May 1896, as I have not been able to collect complete information required under several heads. From what I have on record at my disposal, I am in a position to say that the scheme of water-supply has not been lost sight of since the subject has drawn the attention of Government in late years, and Mr. Forbes has in his various circulars insisted on the local bodies to promote the scheme as desired by Government.

2. Since the question has been started, the District Board have been increasing grants under this head as much as the funds at their disposal would permit, and their chief aim has been to provide wells along roadsides for the sake of travellers which is thought more urgent than constructing wells in villages, where it rests with the villagers and the landlords to look out for themselves.

3. The success of the Government scheme depends much on the exertion of the landlords and rich persons of villages, and the spirit of the Government Circular No. 23L.S.-G., dated the 11th April 1866, which specially touches this point, has been widely published throughout the district through the members of the District and Local Boards.

4. The District Board have, at their meeting held on the 25th July 1896, made it a rule that wells should be provided along the roadsides, and that sites and estimates should be approved of by the Board before any such works are started, in order to prevent Local Boards undertaking works which should be left to private individuals.

5. The Local Boards which were consulted have made the following suggestions in the furtherance of the scheme:—

- (a) That wells should be provided on roadsides 2 miles apart.
- (b) That wells should be furnished with lathas, chains and iron buckets, &c.
- (c) That headmen and chaukidars of villages should be made responsible to keep wells secure from pollution.
- (d) That bye-laws should be framed for prosecuting the persons found polluting wells.

6. I have supported their suggestions, and will see that wells are furnished with lathas and chains, &c., as funds permit. The difficulty is to obtain chains of a suitable calibre. Those proposed are too heavy and could raise several tons. In course of a few years this suggestion, I hope, will be fully carried into effect.

As regards the suggestion (d) the bye-laws, which are now under amendment, will be submitted later on for the approval of Government with a complete report on this subject as soon as I am in receipt of the information to be filled up in the forms above alluded to.

No 17, dated Gaya, the 4th January 1897.

From—H. SAVAGE, Esq., Magistrate of Gaya,
To—The Commissioner of the Patna Division.

In reply to your memorandum No. 518G.Cir., dated 18th December last, and connected papers, respecting the collecting and placing on record of the principal facts regarding water-supply, I have the honour to report as follows.

2. In the three municipalities in the district, complete lists of wells have been prepared, and the Commissioners are considering which should be set aside for drinking purposes.

For the remainder of the district, Register in Form No. I has been completed for Jahanabad and Arrangabad subdivisions by the Local Boards.

In those subdivisions only four villages are found with an inadequate water-supply, and the Local Boards have been directed to submit definite proposals for providing drinking water for those villages.

The Register I from Nawada and the Sadar Local Boards has not yet been received in a complete form.

Register II has not as yet been received from Jahanabad in a complete form.

3. For Gaya town there is a good scheme for water-works, and steps are being taken to raise funds by subscription for carrying out the scheme. In the other municipalities and over the district generally, there is a plentiful supply of well water, but the difficulty is to keep the wells free from pollution.

In the municipalities the difficulty can be met by setting aside certain wells for drinking purposes, and, if necessary, closing the rest. In the outside villages, however, there is no law under which certain wells can be set aside for drinking purposes, and even if there were, it would be generally inoperative, in the absence of local police for detecting, local tribunals for fining, or local opinion for restraining those whose view with respect to a well is that it is at once the proper place for drinking, bathing and washing their clothes and culinary utensils.

No. 4820, dated Arrah, the 30th December 1896.

From—C. R. MARINDIN, Esq., District Magistrate of Shahabad,
To—The Commissioner of the Patna Division.

I HAVE the honour to submit the report called for in your memorandum No. 518G.Cir., dated the 18th current, on the subject of collecting and placing on record the chief facts regarding the water-supply and the steps, if any, taken by Municipalities and the District Boards to improve the existing sources of water-supply and to open new ones.

2. As regards municipalities, registers prescribed in Government order No 7T.M., dated 15th May 1896, have been opened in all the municipalities and existing sources of supply recorded. The wells in all were cleansed during the year by permanganate of potassium; wells have been set apart for drinking and other purposes. The existing number of wells is adequate in all of them.

3. In Arrah there are water-works which supply pure filtered water from the river Sone to the large portion of the town. In Jagdispur the water-supply is drawn from wells, of which there is a sufficient number. In Buxar the water of the Ganges river is chiefly used, but there are 130 wells and 23 tanks within the town. Of these 122 wells are considered wholesome and 8 unwholesome. The former have been set apart for drinking purposes. Of the tanks, one is said to contain good water, which is used for drinking purposes, three reserved for bathing, and the rest for other purposes. A new well was sunk at a cost of Rs. 1,312-3-7, of which Rs. 1,212-3-7 was paid by the Municipality, and the remainder by Government.

In Dumraon eight tanks and 96 wells have been registered. Of these, 40 wells have been reserved for drinking purposes. A tank called Ugrah Singh's tank in mahalla Dharamsala is being cleansed and re-excavated and arrangement made to obtain water from the Bhojpur distributary of the Sone Canal. An experiment was made with the Abyssinian tube well, but without success.

In Bhabua 20 wells have been reserved for drinking purposes, and out of seven tanks two have been set apart for drinking and four for bathing purposes and one for washing clothes, &c. Iron chains and buckets have been provided for each well.

In Sassaram there are two wholesome tanks in the Municipality; one is Shersah's tank, which is the main source of water-supply and is set apart for drinking purposes. A guard is appointed by the Municipality; the other tank called "Goshain's tank" is designed for bathing, washing and other purposes. There are 210 wholesome wells in the town.

4. With regard to the District Board, lists of villages, containing 100 houses and over, were prepared by the Magistrate's office and made over to the District Board on the 2nd September 1896. These are embodied in printed forms, which are being distributed to police and other executive officers, whose duties require them to be on the move in the district. When the lists are returned with the necessary information supplied, registers, as required by Government Circular No. 8T.M., dated the 15th May 1896, will be opened. To enable the Local Boards to improve the sources of water-supply, a sum of Rs. 500 has been placed at the disposal of the Chairmen at Buxar, Sassaram and Bhabua.

No. 47, dated Chapra, the 9th January 1897.

From—E. P. CHAPMAN, Esq., Joint-Magistrate, Saran,
To—The Commissioner of the Patna Division.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your memorandum No. 518G.Cir., dated the 18th December 1896, forwarding Government Circular No. 5818.-G., dated the 12th December 1896, on the subject of the water-supply of this district.

2. The Chapra Municipality have not yet replied to my enquiry, but I understand that the existing water-supply is ample. The Chairman of the Revilgunge Municipality reports that with the numerous wells in the town and the stream of the Gogra at hand, there can never be any fear of a scarcity of water. In the Siwan Municipality the wells have been recently cleansed and disinfected and fresh wells have been constructed. The Chairman reports the supply to be sufficient. The Municipal Board will be directed not to allow the matter to escape their attention.

3. The District Board have not lost sight of the importance of the subject, and it is hoped that Mr. Berkley will shortly pay a visit to the district and elaborate a scheme for the permanent improvement and extension of the distributions to the Saran Canals. It is generally held that tanks are not of such value except as a source of supply for cattle, and the digging of wells has been encouraged in preference. The matter will not be lost sight of.

No. 19, dated Muzaffarpur, the 7th January 1897.

From—L. HARR, Esq., Magistrate of Muzaffarpur,
To—The Commissioner of the Patna Division.

WITH reference to your memorandum No. 518G., dated 18th ultimo, requesting me to submit report of the progress made in collecting and placing on record the chief facts regarding water-supply and the steps that have been taken by the Municipalities and the District Boards to improve the existing sources of water-supply and to open new ones, I have the honour to report as follows :—

I.—It appears from the report of the District Board that the registers regarding water-supply in this district are being prepared from the Settlement Officer's records and the Census tables, and will be completed by the Famine Circle Officers.

Progress made.

Register for Hajipur thana is nearly completed.

Registers for Katra, Pupri, Belsandh, Sheohar, Lalganj and Mahwa thanas are partly done.

II.—From the reports received from the municipalities, viz., Muzaffarpur, Hajipur, Lalganj and Sitamarhi, it appears that they have opened the registers. They further report that their wells have been cleaned and there is no complaint about the water-supply.

No. 693, dated Darbhanga, the 7th January 1897.

From—The Chairman, District Board, Darbhanga,
To—The Commissioner of the Patna Division.

REFERRING to your memorandum No. 518G.Cir., forwarding Bengal Government Circular No. 5818.-G., dated the 12th December 1896, on the subject of the maintenance of a register of the water-supply in the district and the steps taken to improve the existing sources, I have the honour to report that, as directed in paragraph 3 of your letter No. 225G.Cir., dated 29th May 1896, the register showing villages with 100 houses or more has been prepared from the Census tables, and the necessary information has been asked from the police. Reports from all thanas, except Madhepur, Bahera and Rosera, have been received.

The general register embodying all information will be compiled as soon as these remaining reports are received. Printed slips in the prescribed form have also been supplied to the Civil Surgeon for collecting information through the vaccinators to check the figures, &c., received from the police.

2. Beyond clearing silt from some of the existing roadside wells and providing lime and permanganate of potash to purify their water, no other steps have yet been taken to improve the existing sources of water-supply. In the course of the famine relief works now in progress, the re-excavation and clearing of a very considerable number of old tanks will also be taken in hand.

DISTRESS IN THE ORISSA DIVISION.

No. 676.—(Fam.)—The 9th March 1897.—The following papers are published for general information:—

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 658 Agri. (Fam.), dated Calcutta, the 9th March 1897.

From—M. FINUCANE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
To—The Commissioner of the Orissa Division.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 234R., dated the 5th February 1897, with its enclosures, regarding the condition and prospects of the several districts of the Orissa Division, and in reply to convey the following observations and orders of the Lieutenant-Governor.

2. *Paragraph 6 of your letter.*—The Lieutenant-Governor notices with satisfaction that you do not see any grounds for apprehension at present in the state of the Balasore district generally.

3. *Paragraph 8 of your letter.*—This paragraph deals with the sources from which the Collector of Cuttack derives his information of the outturn of crops; and you describe these sources as being "habitually unreliable." The Lieutenant-Governor shares your suspicion that in this district the officers entrusted with the task of reporting on the outturn of crops have disregarded the instructions of Government, and have habitually used the term "sixteen annas" to represent a bumper and not an average crop. I am to request that you will enquire into this point, and take the necessary steps to correct the misconception, if it is found to exist.

4. *Paragraph 9 of your letter.*—With regard to the district of Cuttack, it is believed that the granaries of zamindars and others will prove a valuable resource during the present year of scarcity, and you say that you have not been informed that they have been depleted. I am to request that you will ascertain positively and report to Government whether these granaries have or have not been depleted.

5. *Paragraph 11 of your letter.*—The Lieutenant-Governor accepts your conclusion that at present there appears to be no cause for alarm in Cuttack, but that the necessity for vigilance is clear, and agrees that the Collector should attend to the mapping out of relief circles and to the preparation of schedules of works for areas in which the appearance of distress is probable. He should also have an organisation ready to administer gratuitous relief should it be required, and should enquire into the sufficiency of communication, &c., as you suggest.

6. The tracts reported by the Collector of Cuttack as likely to be affected include the Kujong and Kanika Wards' estates. His Honour is of opinion that it is the duty of the Court of Wards, as a model landlord, to undertake any relief works that may be needed in these estates.

7. In paragraph 12 of Mr. Growse's letter No. 224G., dated the 24th January 1897, it is stated that there is absolutely no machinery for imports. The Lieutenant-Governor does not understand why rice and other grain cannot be imported into the district of Cuttack by steamer if necessary. Experience in Bihar shows that native dealers who ordinarily export are willing enough to import also if put in the way of doing this at a profit. You should see that information as to the selling price of rice in Calcutta and Rangoon is regularly furnished to all the principal dealers.

8. The Lieutenant-Governor approves the action reported to have been taken in paragraph 13 of Mr. Growse's letter. As suggested, the funds of the District Board should be diverted from schemes which do not supply much earthwork, to projects suitable for purposes of famine relief.

9. *Paragraphs 14 and 18 of your letter.*—It is stated that there can be no question that scarcity prevails in a limited area in the district of Puri, but that you have at present no definite information as to area or population

affected. The Lieutenant-Governor awaits the further report, under section 9 of the Famine Code, which you have called for from the Collector.

10. *Paragraph 14 of your letter and paragraph 7 of letter No. 66, dated the 9th January 1897, from the Collector of Puri.*—With regard to a place called Satpara, which the Collector of Puri visited on the 6th January, it is stated by him that “if lives are to be saved, paddy must be brought here and stored in godowns.” In the same paragraph Mr. Lee writes—“I have written in to Puri for ten cartloads of paddy every week to Satpara, but godowns will also have to be established at Arakhkuda, Parikud and Malud.” The Lieutenant-Governor understands from a telegram recently received from you, that the godowns referred to have been opened by private traders for the sale of imported grain, at their own risk, and that the Collector has merely advanced them money at interest to enable them to import grain. Sir Alexander Mackenzie is disposed to think that the action taken was under the circumstances judicious, but the orders of Government should have been obtained, before advances for this purpose were made.

11. It is also stated that in Malud a water famine is anticipated in April or May. The daily weather report issued by the Meteorological Reporter shows that in Puri there was a heavy fall of rain on the 17th February 1897, amounting to 4.25 inches. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that this will have the effect of averting the anticipated danger.

12. *Paragraph 15 of your letter.*—The Lieutenant-Governor agrees that the Collector of Puri should map out his circles of relief, have schedules of works ready in each case, organise gratuitous relief, and enquire into communications, &c., as suggested by you. His Honour would be glad if you could again visit and thoroughly inspect the affected areas in Puri at an early date, and arrange, in concert with the Collector, for such measures of relief as may be required. Full and early report, as required by article 9 of the Famine Code, should be submitted for the affected areas, and regular fortnightly reports should follow. You have funds for gratuitous relief, and no time should be lost in appointing local committees to disburse the money granted from the Charitable Relief Fund.

13. I am also to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 329R., dated the 18th February 1897, in which you apply for sanction to the construction of an embankment on the eastern side of the Chilka lake. In reply, I am to request that you will consult with the Superintending Engineer in charge of the Orissa circle, and submit a further report on the subject. Meanwhile the work proposed and the other embankments referred to in paragraph 7 of your letter may, if the Superintending Engineer and you approve of them, be begun in anticipation of sanction.

14. As regards the appointment of Mr. Parish as Circle Officer for the Chilka area, I am to say that a reference has been made to the Madras Government.

No. 329R., dated Camp Balugaun, the 18th February 1897.

From—H. G. COOKE, Esq., Commissioner of the Orissa Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Dept.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of letter 290 of 11th February 1897, from the Collector of Puri, and my reply thereto. I have endeavoured in my reply to deal fully with each question that has arisen, and to supplement this by calling the attention of the Collector to various points on which his reports are silent.

2. There has been considerable delay in getting in the report required under section 9, and I still await the material for the same, and the revised schedule of works; there appears too much uncertainty as to whether relief works, that are relied on, have actually been commenced. I have issued clear orders to commence them at Malud, Parikud and Satpara. Mr. Beale is dealing with Chabiskud, and I apply for sanction to the construction of the embankment proposed in that locality. I am doubtful whether this should be done by the District Board, but propose that the District Board should begin it, and, if necessary, it should be taken over by the Public Works Department. For the

reasons given in my letter to the Collector, it appears certain that the sanction of Government is required for the work under section 19, and I therefore now apply for such sanction.

I also request sanction to the appointment of Mr. Parish, as Circle Officer, for the whole Chilka area, on a horse allowance of Rs. 100, and with the usual establishment.

3. The arrangements for conveying rice to the places where it is wanted, are now in progress, and Mr. Lee speaks confidently as to his resources in this respect, one individual in Khurda being, in Mr. Lee's opinion, capable of supplying all the rice that will be required for Malud and Parikud. I understand that the population of these places is 24,000, of whom about one-third will have to be considered in providing a grain supply, 8,000 persons at even two-thirds of a seer a day gives 5,333 seers, or 133 maunds a day: this appears an enormous quantity of grain to provide from now till the next harvest, and I find it difficult to share Mr. Lee's confidence on this point. I cannot say that the facts are exaggerated; these tracts ordinarily depend entirely on their own resources, and, if these have entirely failed, I do not see how we can estimate for a smaller quantity.

There are, at present, three contractors bringing grain into the Chilka area; depôts are to be opened at Satpara and Malud, and Kaunas near Balbhadrapur, on the Dyab, which may suffice for the present; but unless our estimates are extremely fallacious, I should think more contractors will be necessary.

4. Gratuitous relief remains to be organized, and the agency available seems inadequate. I think that it may be necessary to establish dispensaries under section 84, mainly with a view to gratuitous relief, the accident that there is a dispensary at Satpara, has attracted some 50 or more applicants for gratuitous relief gathered from a few villages.

5. I visited Satpara and some villages in Parikud. I did not see anywhere more indigent persons than could be produced in any year in a similar area; but these are now thrown on public relief, instead of being supported by their neighbours. The people are eating a weed, locally known as *dounna sâg*, and the roots of the kanika grass; both are well flavoured, and I think it not improbable that they form articles of diet in ordinary years, as a prosperous Bengal raiyat sets his fish-trap for small fry that one would suppose that none but the poorest would resort to as an article of diet.

6. I am not in a position to gainsay the conclusions of the Collector as to the extent of the evil; indeed, where crops have entirely failed a population which only in ordinary years raises enough rice for its own support, I do not see how his conclusions can be questioned; at the same time it is gratifying to be able to say that, so far as my observations went, I did not see in the condition of the people any cause for uneasiness. In this area famine commenced in 1866, and I think that the relief works ought to be opened at once as, indeed, I supposed they had already been.

7. About one matter I am quite clear, the floods on the Chilka have swept away the protective embankments of Malud, Parikud, Satpara, and Chabiskud, and if these are not restored, there will be no protection from yearly floods and loss of crops; these certainly should be restored, and they afford the most useful relief works possible, and should, I think, take precedence of other works.

8. Grain is reported to be leaving the Puri district for Ganjam in large quantities, and I feel some concern about the grain supply of the district, generally, being unduly depleted. Mr. Dutt estimated a large deficit in the stock available in Orissa, as compared with the actual requirements till next harvest. I should be glad to be informed whether action should be taken by me to induce merchants to import rice from Burma, or is this done in Calcutta? There are Bombay merchants in Cuttack, who are accustomed to export on a large scale, and are quite capable of importing on a large scale; but I hesitate to take any steps in this direction without special instructions, the estimates are of doubtful value, and possibly any arrangements of the kind would be made for the province generally in Calcutta: if grain is to be brought from Burma to Orissa, however, it would be simpler to bring it direct, rather than to trans-ship it at Calcutta.

No. 290, dated Puri, the 11th February 1897.

From—W. H. LEE, Esq., Offg. Collector of Puri,
To—The Commissioner of the Orissa Division, Cuttack.

In continuation of my reports Nos. 66 and 116, dated 9th and 20th January 1897, respectively, on the subject of the distress in the Chilka tracts, I have the honour to report as follows.

2. My predecessor, Mr Bell, believing that distress was prevailing in those tracts, ordered one or two test-works to be undertaken, under the supervision of the District Engineer. The results have not yet been reported, and I have, in the meantime, seen the tracts for myself, and reported my observations in the letters quoted above. I have found that it is necessary to open relief works there at once.

3. I have, therefore, in anticipation of your sanction and Government, appointed Mr. Parish, the Salt Inspector at Satpara, to be the Circle Officer, under the Famine Code, for Malud and Parikud, and Mr. Beale, District Engineer, for Pargana Chabiskud, and beg to propose for them a horse-allowance of Rs. 100 each, with nine clerks at Rs. 30 each to begin with.

4. Protecting the country from the incursion of salt-water, there is an embankment on the eastern side of the Chilka lake. This embankment was done as a relief work in the famine of 1866. It is now in a state of great disrepair. During the floods of July last, which swelled the waters of the Chilka to an unusual height, the embankment was washed away in most places, and the salt-water, passing through them, totally destroyed the crops of a large part of Pargana Chabiskud, including the directly-managed estate of that name, and the Wards' Estate of Rorang. It is necessary that this embankment, a portion of which is already maintained as an embanked road by the District Board, should be repaired within the next two months, as the south wind drives the water up towards the bandh. I have ordered earthwork to be begun on it at once. The work is roughly estimated to cost about Rs. 10,000, and an estimate is being prepared by the District Engineer. Section 52 of the Famine Code says that large works will be the backbone of the system of relief in the latter stage of a famine, while small works should be utilized to the utmost in the early days of the scarcity. But having regard to the provisions of Section 55, and those of paragraph 4 of the rules of Government of North-Western Provinces and Oudh, enclosed with their Resolution No. 18 Public Works of 1896, and forwarded with Bengal Government Circular No. 74, dated 31st December 1896, and also considering the fact that unless the embankment be repaired immediately within the next two months, there is danger to a large amount of Revenue in the directly-managed and the Wards' Estates, I have thought it best to order repairs to be done at once, to the Nuni bundh, as it is commonly called, as a relief work. I propose to disburse money on this account from Government in the first instance, and to adjust it subsequently between us and the Province.

5. I have, in reference to paragraph 30 (e) of the Famine Code asked Messrs. Parish and Beale to ascertain and report what works can be carried out in the Circles, with rough estimate of the cost, and when I have their reports, I shall be in a position to report the extent to which Imperial aid is likely to be required for the tracts in question.

6. Your sanction to the arrangements and proposals is solicited.

No 328R., dated Camp Puri, the 15th February 1897.

From—H. G. COOKE, Esq., Commissioner of the Orissa Division,
To—The Collector of Puri.

In reply to your letter No. 290, dated the 11th February, I have the honour to state that it is to be regretted that the result of one or two test-works opened by Mr. Bell was not formally reported, but the fact that you have been to the affected areas on the Chilka, and satisfied yourself as to the necessity for opening relief works, will doubtless be accepted as an equivalent to such report.

2. I understand that relief works have actually been opened, and gratuitous relief administered under Chapter III of the Code, and that the relief work is paid for at the minimum rates prescribed by Chapter VII of the Code. As I have already pointed out to you, action taken under Chapter III of the Code should have been preceded by action under Chapter II. The protective embankment for Chabiskud should be commenced; this, I think, is only relief work that has been specifically referred to in your reports. I learn from you verbally that a relief work in the form of a road is contemplated in Malud and Parikud, but I am unable to ascertain whether any action has been taken in this direction, some information being to the effect that it has not been commenced; other information shows that it was commenced a fortnight ago; it appears to be a fact that no officer is on the spot looking after the work, which makes it probable that nothing is being done. In view of the fact that some weeks ago Malud was described as the worst part of the district, this is not a matter that should remain in uncertainty, and you should at once send out an officer to see that the relief work is opened. Mr. Gupta volunteered to start the work, but it should ultimately be placed under a District Board Overseer, under the supervision of Mr. Parish, whom you have selected as Superintendent. I think that protective embankments should

take precedence of the road in Malud and Parikhud. The only extensive work that has been a considerable time in progress, is the protective embankment made by the Raja of Parikud, which is, I learn, nearly finished, and I presume that other works will be necessary in Parikud ere long. I find that a relief work to be executed out of the Khurda Government Estate Improvement Fund awaits sanction. It consists of an embankment to protect Satpara, Bankijol, Noagown, Bagmunda and Seopukarda hamlets, as well as 18 survey mauzas. It is important that this should be pushed on, as the high tides will do further damage to rice lands if this embankment is not made before they take place. Mr. Gupta should begin the work in anticipation of sanction; if his funds are insufficient, they should be supplemented by the District Board. You tell me that there can be no doubt as to the necessity of reporting under Chapter II that scarcity is apprehended, and famine is imminent in certain portions of your district, and your action in opening relief works and administering gratuitous relief, shows that such has been your conviction for some little time; please therefore report under section 10, supplying me with the information necessary for my report under section 9.

8. It will be necessary to consider what areas should be declared. I understand that a portion of Chabiskud, which is also adjacent to the Chilka lake, is similarly affected to the Malud. Parikud area to the south of the lake you should consider whether this second area should not be dealt with in the same report, and so with the detached villages you speak of on the north shore of the Chilka. From what I gather all these tracts might be simultaneously dealt with.

4. I would draw your attention to the remission statements for certain villages in Khasmahal Chatiskud which, I think, will establish the fact that these villages normally lose their crop and are allowed abatements, year by year, as a matter of course. The people of these villages apparently have some resources other than their crops which constantly fail; it will have to be considered whether things are really worse than usual in these parts for, in an ordinary year, it would be possible to produce evidence of local destruction of crops, which nevertheless had not called for special relief measures in the past.

5. You inform me that you have, in anticipation of sanction, appointed Mr. Parish, Salt Inspector, as Circle Officer of Malud and Parikud, and Mr. Beale, District Engineer, as Circle Officer of Chabiskud. The area assigned to a Superintendent, that is, an officer of the status of Mr. Parish or Mr. Beale, in Bihar, is two hundred to three hundred square-miles, with a population of 250,000 persons, the Chilka areas collectively would not provide works for one such officer. I see no objection to Mr. Parish being given the post of Superintendent of the whole affected area, with the 100 Rupees horse-allowance. His salt work can, at least, for the present, be left more to subordinates than is perhaps desirable, but I understand that Mr. Shreen may be trusted to see after it; the urgency of the case, and the impossibility of finding suitable officers locally, will doubtless be accepted as adequate reasons for such a course. Mr. Beale, District Engineer's services, cannot be concentrated on the present famine area; his duties lie not in the Chilka area alone, as is the case with Mr. Parish, but all over the district of Puri, and even, should scarcity be confined to the Chilka area, he could not neglect his work in the rest of the district, still more is it important to have his services available wherever scarcity may arise in your district. I cannot therefore approve of Mr. Beale being appointed as Superintendent; his services should be utilized, however, in starting the works in Chabiskud, and, if necessary, in the other affected areas around the Chilka.

6. Mr. Parish will not only require Mr. Beale's assistance, but will also require Inspector's dealing with areas of 30 to 40 miles, with populations of 2,500 to 3,000 persons. I cannot find on what scale Inspectors are paid in Bihar. I presume that they could be had for Rs. 50 a month or less, but I do not see why the work of Inspectors should not be done at present by Overseers and Sub-Overseers of the Board, whose other duties can be entrusted to temporary substitutes.

7. The scale of establishment, allowed to Superintendents in Bihar, will be found at paragraph 2, Resolution No. 5133, of 10th December 1896, together with other details that I quoted above; there is some reference to the pay of Superintendent at page 10 of the Notes of a Conference held at Sonapur on 20th November 1896, forwarded with Circular No. 49 Agri. of 26th November 1896; your office establishments are excessive and should be reduced.

8. Your paragraph 4 refers to the construction of an embankment on the eastern shore of the Chilka lake as a relief work; the work is roughly estimated to cost Rs. 10,000, and as the District Board cannot command this sum, and also, as I judge, the work will occupy 1,000 men for three months, it would appear that it comes under the head of 'large works,' section 55 of the code, and it appears open to question whether this work should not be placed under the Public Works Department. I shall be obliged by your informing me, at an early date, whether you think this should be done, or whether the work can be carried out by the District Board. Section 54 of the Code classifies relief works as those done by the Public Works out of Imperial or Provincial funds, and those dealt with by the District Board out of local funds. This would lead to the conclusion that the present one, which will require the assistance of Provincial funds, would ordinarily be made over to the Public Works Department. In any case it appears certain that the previous sanction of Government is necessary, as the cost will fall on Provincial funds; you say that the cost will be ultimately adjusted by the District Board, but supposing the Board capable of refunding Rs. 10,000 which seems scarcely possible in view of the heavy calls that it may have to meet this year and next year, the date of such adjustment is likely to be remote and I think it only right

to treat the work as one made from Government funds, and apply for sanction under section 19 of the Code; this sanction will, therefore, be at once applied for, without waiting for my report under section 9 of the Code: you will be justified in commencing in anticipation of sanction, and, if necessary, the work can be transferred to the Public Works Department hereafter.

9. There are some other points, some of which I have referred to in previous correspondence, to which I desire to call your attention.

(a) The schedule of works especially prepared to meet famine requirements, should be pushed on to completion. I understand that Mr. Beale has been engaged on this, and that you believe that it is finished. I need hardly say that the schedule should be comprehensive and not confined to the area at present seriously affected, but should include projects that will adequately meet any requirements that may arise in the way of relief works throughout your district.

(b) You should have all parts of the district, where distress is in the least apprehended, mapped out into Superintendents' Charges and Inspectors' Circles, so that if necessity arise, you will only have to appoint officers in each case as occasion requires. Officers competent to hold a Superintendent's charge are not obtainable locally; you should give me the earliest notice of such officers being required, as procuring them will necessarily take some little time; the supply is little better in Cuttack than it is in Puri.

(c) With regard to gratuitous relief of "respectable women," I understand that cases of the kind are hardly likely to occur in the Chilka area, and that there is a Manager for Malud, the Raja of Parikud and his servants and two dewans, who could deal with any such cases. I apprehend that you will meet with considerable difficulty in finding a local agency to deal with this matter in the district generally, as there seem but few prominent persons who could be trusted with so delicate a task. This matter will require very careful consideration from you and your Committee, should the necessity for such relief arise.

On the occasion of my visit to Satpara, I found that the dispensary was a centre of gratuitous relief, and that some old and infirm people were in receipt of grain doles. Assuming that these were all really indigent persons who, in other years, would have been supported by the charity of neighbours, who are not now in a position to be charitable, some idea of the requirements of Malud and Parikud in the way of charitable relief can be formed, if the few villages around Satpara give so many cases, the larger areas will give ten or twenty times as many. If the overseer to be placed in charge of the relief works is unable to distribute gratuitous relief in Malud-Parikud, and if no local persons are available, a dispensary should be opened under section 84, and the hospital assistant should be relieving officer as at Satpara.

(d1) The question of communications also requires very careful study. The Chilka lake is served on the north side by East Coast Railway, and it is proposed to take rice in boats from the northern shore to central points of the affected area. All that seems necessary is to procure an adequate supply of boats for this purpose. You expressed a doubt as to the resources of the lake in the matter of boats. I need scarcely say that adequate provision is imperative, and boats will have to be found.

(d2) Another portion of the map marked brown, includes parganas Mirichpur, Khodar and Astrang; there appear to be no roads whatever in this locality and the Devi river, as itself an offset of the Kokai, is doubtless as dry as the latter at this season; happily your reports do not show reason to apprehend distress here at present, but in the event of it occurring, you should be prepared to act and know how grain can reach these localities.

(d3) The brown tract near Bhubneshwar can be reached by the Railway, but it remains to be seen how distribution is to be effected from the Railway Stations.

(d4) Kotdesh, which is colored dark green, is singularly ill provided with roads, though the northern part adjoins both the railway and the Puri road; besides this there is but one unmetalled road from a point Baligai near the east shore of the Sur lake to Madhab on the Cuttack boundary; this road probably extends into the Cuttack district. I do not suppose that water-carriage will be available by the Bargovi and Khushbhodro rivers till the rains, and should distress occur in this large area, I fear that the communications will be found inadequate; at the same time it may, perhaps, be assumed that in ordinary times rice does circulate in this area, at least for export purposes, even if local trade is not great, owing to the agriculturalists keeping their own stores; and if rice leaves the area, it must be able to return to it in the same manner and by the same routes; but it appears that we are at present in the dark as to what the manner is, and what the routes are, and it would be well to ascertain these from the Police or other agency.

(e). You may find it necessary to have a supply of tents, treasure-chests, copper coin, and tools and baskets, see paragraph 8, Resolution 5130 of 10th December 1896 and Government of North-Western Provinces, Resolution page 4, received with Circular 74 of 31st December 1896; there are many points in the North-Western Provinces Resolution, which repay study. These matters have to be dealt with with foresight, as tents, &c., are not to be had at short notice in Puri.

At Satpara, I learn from Mr. Parish that kodalis will not be wanting, and all that the coolies will require is a supply of baskets which can be made locally, and picks.

(f). I understand that you have found contractors willing to take advances from Government, and pay interest. This has been done nominally in accordance with paragraph 136 of Resolution 5133 of 10th December 1896; in fact what has been done is not in strict

accordance with the conditions imposed, viz., (1) that "supplies are drawn from districts beyond those in which scarcity extends, or is apprehended in the present instance, all India," and (2) "occasional inspection of grain invoices in order to verify that the persons to whom advances are made do really import grain into the inaccessible tracts, and that it was obtained originally outside Bengal or other provinces threatened with scarcity."

The departure from the above conditions is unfavourable, and I only mention the matter, in order to keep the Government informed of the fact.

(g). I would call your attention to paragraph 12 of Resolution 5133 of 10th December 1896, on the subject of well-sinking. As you have already referred to an apprehended water famine, it would be as well to ascertain whether the system of a Government contribution of Re. 1 per well would overcome the apathy of the people, who appear unwilling to stir themselves to procure water which is, I understand, very easily procured.

(h). The Ohilka area, where tanks have been dug as relief works, has no rivers, but this may not be the case everywhere. That it may be necessary to undertake such works, I therefore invite your attention to what is written in paragraph 19 of Resolution 5133 of 10th December about providing tanks that admit of being flushed from rivers.

DISTRESS IN THE CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.

No. 678.—(Fam.).—The 9th March 1897.—The following papers are published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 677Agri. (Fam.), dated Calcutta, the 9th March 1897.

From—M. FINUCANE, Esq., Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal,
To—The Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 575T.M.R., dated the 24th February 1897, with its enclosures, reporting on the condition and prospects of the districts in the Chota Nagpur Division, and in reply to convey the following observations and orders of the Lieutenant-Governor.

2. *Paragraph 5 of your letter.*—It is stated that you still prefer to regard the works in the district of Palamau as test works, in so far that you still think it unnecessary and undesirable to bring into operation section 67(1) of the Famine Code, which lays down that no relief-worker, whether employed individually or in a gang, shall be paid less than the minimum wage prescribed by section 101 of the Code, except temporarily in cases of contumacy. You are persuaded that the condition of the people in Palamau does not at present require this departure from the general system of task work, and that the result would only be harmful. The Lieutenant-Governor accepts your views.

3. In the same paragraph you observe that Mr. Renny is mistaken in thinking that the rates* shown in the column of remarks at page 13 of the Hon'ble Mr. Glass's table of tasks for famine relief workers are the rates to be adopted in the payment of wages to famine labourers. Those rates are, as you rightly understand, the ordinary contract rates. The rates to be paid to relief-workers are those shown at page IV, Appendix IV of the Public Works Department Resolution No. 420M.P.L., dated the 25th January 1897. Explanatory notes are being issued, showing separately how the tasks for diggers, and the tasks for, and numbers of, carriers should be regulated. The principle to be borne in mind is that the full tasks prescribed in page 2 of Mr. Glass's note prefixed to the table of tasks, namely, 200 feet in soft soil, 130 feet in medium, 85 in hard, &c., should be exacted from diggers, and the numbers of carriers should be regulated according to the length of lift and lead, so that they may be able to lift and carry the earth excavated by the diggers.

4. *Paragraph 11 of your letter.*—As regards the grant of loans for village works in the district of Manbhum, under Government notification No. 69Agri.—Fam., dated the 5th January 1897, I am directed to say that there is no objection to giving such loans on adequate security. As suggested by you, the Deputy Commissioner may grant loans for village works wherever he considers that there is a real demand for work, even though the necessity of opening relief works may not as yet have been proved.

5. Orders as to the appointment of a third Superintendent will be passed when it is found that an additional officer is required. The Public Works Department have deputed an upper subordinate, and are unable to spare any more officers at present. You should endeavour, if possible, to obtain suitable men locally for the supervision of relief works, but should you be unable to do so, you should address the Public Works Department of this Government on the subject of deputing an Engineer to Palamau.

No. 575T.—M.R., dated Camp Hazaribagh, the 24th February 1897.

From—A. FORBES, Esq., C.S.I., Offg. Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

In continuation of this office No. 474T.—M.R., dated 12th instant, I have the honour to submit the following report under section 13 of the Famine Code for the districts of this Division.

PALAMAU.

2. I enclose a copy of the Deputy Commissioner's report (Appendix F). Up to the end of the week ending the 13th instant, the general rise in prices continued to be felt, as shown by the following figures reported by the Deputy Commissioner:—

	Week ending 16th January 1897.	Week ending 24th January 1897.	Week ending 31st January 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.
Number of <i>hats</i> at which rice was selling under eight seers per rupee. ...	4	7	7	15
Number of <i>hats</i> at which rice was selling at eight seers and under nine seers per rupee. ...	18	26	36	22
Number of <i>hats</i> at which rice was selling at nine seers and under ten seers per rupee. ...	58	40	28	54
Number of <i>hats</i> at which rice was selling at ten seers and under eleven seers per rupee. ...	10	6	4	...
Number of <i>hats</i> at which rice was selling at eleven seers or over. ...	1	1	1	...
Total number of <i>hats</i> from which returns were received. ...	86	80	76	91

I note, however, that some of the returns submitted call for explanation. For instance, it is reported that in all the *hats* of the Manatu outpost rice was up to 7 seers per rupee, although at Hariarganj, which is only about 30 miles distant, it was selling at 9½ seers. The difference, supposing the figures reported are correct, can only be explained by a rigging of the market by the local traders. I am calling the attention of the Deputy Commissioner to this matter.

3. Since the date of my last report, the proposal to allow a bounty of 8 annas per maund on Burma rice imported to Daltonganj *via* Maharajganj has, I am glad to say, been sanctioned by Government. Sanction was accorded by telegram on the 14th instant, and one of the Gaya merchants writes me, under date 17th instant, that he had already despatched 668 maunds to an agent he has appointed for the purpose at Daltonganj. I have every reason to hope that the measure will have the desired effect of unlocking or replenishing the local stores, whichever may turn out to be the remedy needed.

4. In my last report I stated that up to the 9th instant, five relief test-works had been opened, on which 416 men, 168 women and 161 children, total 745 persons were employed; and that 338 persons were stated to be on gratuitous relief. Since then work has been opened in two other places, and the numbers on all the seven works now in hand had risen by the 16th instant (except at Latehar, for which place the return is dated 13th instant), to 2,676 viz., 1,266 men, 966 women, and 440 children, as will be seen from the abstract accompanying this report (Appendix II); while the number of persons on gratuitous relief has increased to 404, viz., 154 men, 188 women, and 62 children. I notice that the average number of persons on relief works, as given in the body of the Deputy Commissioner's report, during the week ending the 13th instant, was only 1,312, viz., 671 men, 387 women and 254 children; but there was a cause for such low figures, viz., the inclemency, for several days running, of the weather. This seems to have had the effect—notably at Panki, where the largest work (road construction) is in progress—of keeping all the labourers away for one whole day and two-thirds of them for the next day: not in itself a bad sign. Immediately the weather cleared again, they appear to have returned to the works in increasing numbers.

5. As regards the remarks recorded by the Deputy Commissioner on the subject of my orders respecting rates of wage, I beg to state that I still prefer to regard the works in the Palamau district as test-works, in so far that I still think it unnecessary and undesirable to bring into operation section 67 (1) of the Famine Code, as I am persuaded that the condition of the people does not at present require this relaxation of the general system of task-work, and that the result would only be harmful. I may here mention that, when a month ago, I raised the rate from the former *test-work* rate (*viz.*, Rs. 1-4 per 1,000 cubic feet) to the present *relief-work* rate (*viz.*, Rs. 2-3 per 1,000 cubic feet), I did so under a misapprehension of facts. I was guided chiefly by the returns from the test-work then in progress at Leshiganj, the returns from which showed a rapid increase in numbers during several days (23rd to 25th January). It was not, however, until my visit to that place, on the 30th idem, that I found that the numbers had suddenly fallen off from 168 on the 25th to only 15 on the 26th; that they had again risen to 76 on the 27th, to fall back to 24 on the 28th and to 35 on the 29th. I then discovered, on questioning the officer in charge, that he was under the impression that it was his duty to endeavour to attract people to the work, and this he had done (on the 27th) by enlisting the good offices of a neighbouring zamindar in inducing his raiyats to attend, and by also informing the people that the work was only a test-work, and that the rates would be shortly raised if they kept on working. When they found, however, that the rate was not raised, they left off coming. My first impulse, on discovering this, was to recall my order allowing the adoption of *relief-work* rates; but in view of the cessation of imports and of the consequent marked rise in prices, I thought it best to let the order stand. I certainly do not, however, think that any further modification, in the direction desired by the Deputy Commissioner, is at present necessary. I would also point out that Mr. Renny, in making the calculation as to the rate of wage permissible under the Hon'ble Mr. Glass' scheme, is mistaken in thinking that the rates shown in the column of remarks, page 13 of that officer's note, are those to be adopted in the case of famine labourers, *viz.*, annas 2½ per man, annas 2 per woman and annas 1½ per boy. Those are the ordinary *contract* rates, as I understand, given by the Public Works Department. The rates to be paid to relief labourers are those shown at page iv, Appendix IV, Government Resolution No. 420M.P.I., dated 25th January, and (at 9 seers per rupee) come to only 1½ annas to 2 annas per man, 1½ annas per woman, and 1 anna per boy. My views as to the sufficiency of the rate I have for the present fixed (Rs. 2-3 per 1,000 cubic feet) are contained in the accompanying extract from a demi-official letter, dated 18th instant, to the Deputy Commissioner (Appendix III). Most of the works are road works with burrow pits close to the road, and I am not yet prepared to allow any enhancement on such works on account of lead or lift. In tank work there is more need for differentiation, and I am instructing the Deputy Commissioner that he is at liberty to introduce, at such works, the scale prescribed in the Hon'ble Mr. Glass' memorandum taking the

With rice at 9 seers—

	As.	P.
Each man ...	1	6
" woman ...	1	6
" boy ...	1	0

daily wage for the present as noted in the margin, with a proviso, in favour of the labourers, that the rate will not be less than Rs. 2-3 per 1,000 cubic feet. This will mean that up to 100 feet lead with a 6 feet lift, no enhancement will be allowed on the above rate. For, say, 150 feet lead and 12 feet lift, the wage will be worked out as under:—

	As.	P.	As.	P.
7 (men) × 35 c.ft. = 245 c.ft.	7	× 1 6	=	10 6
3 (women) × 28 " = 84 "	3	× 1 6	=	4 6
3 (boys) × 21 " = 63 "	3	× 1 0	=	3 0
				18
802 or, say, 400 c. ft				annas 18
400 : 1,000 :: 18 : x				
x = $\frac{1,000 \times 18}{400}$ = 45 = 2 13 per 1,000 c. ft., and so on.				

6. The Deputy Commissioner has been given the services of two overseers and two sub-overseers from the Public Works Department. He has also the

District Engineer and two road-cess overseers under his orders. But the district is a large one, the works are scattered, and the numbers attending them are rapidly rising. Under the circumstances, I am of opinion that an officer of the grade of Assistant Engineer should be deputed to assist in the duty of supervision, and I am addressing the Inspector of Works, Western Circle, on the subject. The Deputy Commissioner suggests that the Public Works Department should be asked to take charge of some of the larger works, *e.g.*, of the road work at Panki on which (as I learn from a post-card from the officer in charge) the numbers at work on the 19th instant had risen to 1,047. There is, however, only one Executive Engineer (at Ranchi, 100 miles by road from Daltonganj), and I do not know whether this could be conveniently arranged; and I think that the deputation of an Assistant Engineer for the present—and of one or two more, if necessary, afterwards—to work under the orders of the Deputy Commissioner, will meet requirements. I should be obliged for orders on this point.

7. For the present the Deputy Commissioner has placed Mr. Sunder in charge as Superintendent of the three western thanas, Husainabad, Garhwa, and Rauka; Deputy Magistrate and Collector Maulvi Muhammad Yusuf Ali of the three southern thanas, Mahuadand, Latehar and Balumath, he himself remaining in charge of the three central thanas, Daltonganj, Patan and Chhatarpur. If Government can give the services of a third officer as Superintendent, I propose to place him in charge of the three western thanas, and to place the three central ones under Mr. Sunder, as they include several important Government estates with which Mr. Sunder is well acquainted and where he could be usefully employed in supervising the construction of irrigation *bundhs* and other works of improvement.

MANBHUM.

8. A copy of the Deputy Commissioner's report, dated 19th instant, is enclosed (Appendix IV). The statements which should have accompanied the Deputy Commissioner's report have not yet arrived. They will follow when received.

9. The report shows clearly the existence of distress in the Gobindpur, Tundi, Nirsha and Chas thanas sufficient to necessitate the opening of relief works. It is true that the first test works, as I suspected when writing my last report, were not properly conducted on task work principles; but the mistake was soon remedied, with the result that on the 17th instant some 1,500 persons still attended on a task-work rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas per 100 cubic feet. The Deputy Commissioner was continuing the test for a few days longer, and I am authorizing him, should the numbers have kept up to this figure for one week, to raise the wage to the authorized relief rate of Rs. 2-3 per 1,000 cubic feet (as in Palamau). I am also requesting him to re-open test-works in the Jhalda thana at $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas per 100 cubic feet, as I consider the former rate of 2 annas, in view of the prevailing high prices, somewhat too low.

10. In my last report I asked that two overseers and two sub-overseers might be placed at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioner in view of the unmistakeable signs of increasing distress. I think that Government should also be prepared to depute one or two officers of the grade of Assistant Engineer to the Manbhum district at short notice, should the necessity arise, as it probably will do shortly.

11. Regarding the question of loans for village works under the rules published with notification No. 69, dated 5th January last, I note that the Deputy Commissioner proposes to await the result of the existing test-works before taking steps to make such advances and also to restrict his action in this direction to the parts of the district where distress has distinctly declared itself. I should be inclined to support a more liberal policy, and to permit Mr. Lusson to make loans of the kind referred to at once, and whenever he considers that there is a real demand for work, even though the necessity of opening relief works may not as yet have been proved. On this point I should be obliged for instructions from Government. In considering it, I think the effect on the general mass of the people of the high prevailing prices may fairly be allowed weight.

12. I am informing the Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum and Palamau of the arrangements made by Mr. Herald in Hazaribagh to afford relief to

respectable females at their homes by employing them in spinning cotton, through the medium of the educational officers, and am asking them to endeavour to set a similar system at work in their districts.

13. I am also asking Mr. Luson to follow the example of Mr. Renny in making advances to the head raiyats of Government villages where irrigation *dyndhs* are needed, the advances to be worked off at a maximum rate which I have for the present fixed at Re. 1-9 per 1,000 cubic feet of earthwork.

HAZARIBAGH.

14. Copy of the Deputy Commissioner's report is submitted (Appendix V). The following is an abstract statement of the prices of common rice ruling at the *hâts* from which returns were received during the three last fortnightly period:—

	1st fortnight of January 1897.	2nd fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.
Number of <i>hâts</i> in which rice was selling at—			
Less than 8 seers per rupee ...	4	4	2
8 seers and under 9 seers ...	23	27	25
9 seers and under 10 seers ...	37	33	29
10 seers and under 11 seers ...	11	8	2
Number of <i>hâts</i> from which returns were received ...	75	72	58

The above figures would have been more valuable for purposes of comparison, if the returns had been for exactly the same *hâts* in each fortnight. Not having been so, it is difficult to form any opinion from them as to the general rise or fall of prices; but the Deputy Commissioner states that there is no tendency in the prices for rice to get harder, though *makai* (Indian-corn) continues to rise and is now in many places as dear as common rice. I regret that up to the time of writing this, the Deputy Commissioner has not been able to furnish me with particulars regarding imports and exports of food-grains.

15. No relief works have yet been opened, but 37 works of different kinds are going on in 35 places at ordinary rates without, apparently, attracting more than the usual amount of labour. I notice, however, that 19 of the works in question are "building works" or "repairing wells" which, though useful in their way as affording employment, cannot be regarded as of any value as a test. Omitting these, there were 18 places where roads and other earthwork gave employment to 699 men, 81 women and 60 children at the ordinary rate of Re. 1-9 per 1,000 cubic feet. I am inclined myself, in view of the prevailing high prices, to doubt whether these works are in themselves a sufficient test, and I am recommending the Deputy Commissioner to offer work in other places wherever he may hear of there being a demand for it, lest he be suddenly taken unawares. At the same time I admit that the comparatively small number of women and children on the above works does not point to the existence of real distress.

16. The information given by the Deputy Commissioner on the subject of loans is somewhat vague, and I am asking him to give more definite particulars in his future reports, distinguishing between ordinary loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act, loans under the rules covered by notification No. 69, dated 5th January last, loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, and advances made for improvements in Government estates. As regards the latter, I am calling his attention to the system adopted by Mr. Renny in the Palamu district.

17. The system of giving relief to respectable females at their homes, by spinning cotton, through the medium of the subordinates of the Educational Department, is being supervised by Rai Jadunath Mukerjee Bahadur, the Honorary Secretary to the Hazaribagh Branch Famine Relief Fund Committee, and promises to work well.

18. The Deputy Commissioner does not, so far, require any assistance in the matter of establishment.

LOHARDAGA AND SINGHBHUM.

19. Up to the time of writing this, I have not received the fortnightly reports from the Deputy Commissioners. But there is no reason to apprehend any distress for the present in either district.

APPENDIX I.

No. 1871R., dated Daltonganj, the 17th February 1897.

From—R. H. RENVY, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of Palaman,
To—The Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my fortnightly report under section 13 of the Famine Code for the fortnight ending 15th February 1897.

Report required under section 13 of the Famine Code for the fortnight from 1st to 15th February 1897.

2. *Preliminary.*—Under orders of the Commissioner of the Division, all relief works are treated as test-works still.

3. *The general condition during the half-month of the tract or tracts for which anxiety is felt.*—As stated in my previous report, the whole district of Palaman causes anxiety to be felt. The general condition of the district has grown worse since my last report was submitted. At the close of January 43 markets were selling rice under nine seers, 18 at nine seers, 10 above nine but below ten, 3 at ten, 1 over 10 seers but below 11, and one at 11 seers; but now 78 markets are selling at nine seers and under, 13 over nine seers but under 10, and none at over 10 seers. Again the weather has been very unsettled and unfavourable to the *rabi*, *mahua* and mango crops. Supplies have not increased since I last wrote.

4. *Prospect of crops.*—Owing to the unfavourable weather during the greater part of the fortnight under report, for it has been cloudy, stormy and wet with some hail, *khesari*, wheat, barley, gram, *masuri*, peas and mustard have been damaged to some extent, as those crops in blossom have had the flowers blown off by the storm and hail, and those in pod have suffered from the wet and cloudy weather by worms forming with pods and from want of sunshine. The mango crop is said to be lost by all blossom having been knocked off by wind, rain and hail, and the early *mihua* crop is said to have suffered severely from the wet, cool weather and want of sunshine. The weather still continues to be very cloudy and threatening.

5. *Food-stock.*—The food-stock is running low in many parts, and the supplies of edible jungle roots, fruits, sags, &c., are becoming exhausted. I received a telegram from the Commissioner of the Division, informing me that Government have sanctioned a bounty of eight annas per maund of Burma rice imported by traders to Daltonganj. I hope this bounty will prove a sufficient inducement to traders both in and out of the district to pour Burma rice into it. Mr. Savage, Collector of Gaya, also writes me that he is arranging to send me 10,000 maunds of rice by orders of Government, and Ghansom Dass, a Gaya merchant, has sent off a chalan of 600 maunds for sale at Daltonganj as a speculation. If the bounty scheme proves successful, all anxiety on the score of food-supply will be removed.

6. *Importation and exportation of grains.*—There is a *mela* at Daltonganj, and some rice was brought into the market here from Hariarganj; no doubt it has come from the tracts in the Shahabad and Gaya districts irrigated by the Sone river. It was not much. A little also found its way here from Lohardaga and Burway, both in the Loharlaga district. I have heard of no grain leaving the district.

7. *Rainfall.*—There was rain and small hail during the fortnight under report. On the night of the 11th a severe nor-wester with 68 inches of rain and some hail blew, and on the 12th there was heavy rain again: 59 inches was registered. There was rain also on 7th, 8th and 13th, but slight.

8. *Public health.*—The Civil Medical Officer informs me that the prevailing scarcity and high prices of food which have continued for many months past, has and is still telling more or less severely on the poorer-classes. No epidemics have, I am thankful to say, visited us.

9. *Emigration and immigration of famished people.*—There has undoubtedly been emigration, and chiefly from the Fori and Latehar parganas. There is every year more or less movement from these parts, but this year it has received impetus from the scarcity and high prices prevailing everywhere in the district and neighbouring districts. The people who have left has gone mostly to the tea districts of the Western Duars. No immigration to speak of.

10. *Condition of cattle.*—The weather, which is so unfavourable to crops, is most favourable to cattle, who are flourishing on the fresh grass brought up by the rain. There is very little, if any, cattle-disease prevalent up to date.

11. *Number and nature of public works open in or near the tract, distinguishing works—(a) under District Board or Municipal Committee, (b) under Public Works Department (Executive or Superintending Engineer.)*—All works open are managed by the Deputy Commissioner out of funds placed at his disposal by the District Road Committee. The Public Works Department have not been called as yet, but the time has arrived when the Executive Engineer, Chota Nagpur Division, should be sent down here with an adequate staff to take some of the works, in which the labourers nearing 1,000, off my hands. The time has also arrived when the Commissioner of the Division might with advantage allow us to drop styling our works "test" works, for a test is no longer needed, considering the number of people who resort to the works.

The works open are—

(1) At Panki	...	...	...	Road construction.
(2) At Leeliganj	...	...	...	Excavation of a tank.
(3) At Nowajaipur	...	...	...	Road construction.
(4) At Shahpur	...	...	...	Reservoir repairs.
(5) At Garhwa	...	...	...	Excavation of a tank.
(6) At Untari	...	...	...	Road construction.
(7) Latehar	...	...	...	Ditto.

and officers have been deputed to open works at Balumath and Ranka.

12. *Daily average number of persons employed on the works in each week of the half-month, distinguishing (i) men, (ii) women, (iii) children, as compared with the number employed in the previous half-month.*—The following statement gives the average number of persons attending daily at the so-called test relief works during the week ending 6th February 1897 :—

			Number of men.	Number of women.	Number of children.	Total.	REMARKS.
1			2	3	4	5	6
1. Panki	...	...	98	65	88	245	
2. Leeliganj	...	...	117	46	35	198	
3. Latehar	...	...	7	3	2	12	
4. Garhwa	...	...	24	7	...	31	
5. Nawa	...	...	11	1	4	16	
Total	...	...	257	122	123	502	

The following statement gives similar information for the week ending 13th February 1897 :—

			Number of men.	Number of women.	Number of children.	Total.	REMARKS.
1			2	3	4	5	6
1. Panki	...	...	143	93	143	379	
2. Leeliganj	...	...	123	48	30	201	
3. Latehar	...	...	73	48	14	135	
4. Garhwa	...	...	104	49	...	153	
5. Nawa	...	...	47	17	19	83	
6. Shahpur	...	...	89	16	6	61	
7. Untari	...	...	142	118	42	300	
Total	...	...	671	387	254	1,312	

Figures for the average number of persons attending daily at test relief works in the previous half-month are as follows :—

			Number of men.	Number of women.	Number of children.	Total.	REMARKS.
1			2	3	4	5	6
1. Leeliganj	...	...	59	12	21	72	
2. Panki	...	...	20	22	29	71	
Total	...	...	59	34	50	143	

As reported already, the distribution of gratuitous relief has been left in the hands of a Relief Committee appointed in each thana and outpost.

The following is the statement of average number of persons daily receiving gratuitous relief for the week ending 6th February 1897:—

	Number of men.	Number of women.	Number of children.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Banks	13	20	24	56	
2. Latchar	...	5	2	7	
3. Leeliganj	14	17	3	33	
4. Garhwa	17	21	1	39	
5. Bistrampur	18	30	...	48	
6. Hariarganj	12	13	...	25	
7. Panki	12	8	3	23	
8. Chandwa	18	20	1	39	
9. Untari	6	11	...	17	
10. Bhowanathpur	2	10	...	12	
11. Daltonganaj	15	10	5	30	
Total	126	165	38	329	

The following statement gives the average number of persons daily receiving gratuitous relief for the week ending 13th February 1897:—

	Number of men.	Number of women.	Number of children.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Banks	17	28	29	74	
2. Latchar	7	15	4	26	
3. Leeliganj	12	19	3	33	
4. Garhwa	16	22	1	39	
5. Bistrampur	15	23	...	38	
6. Hariarganj	10	13	...	23	
7. Panki	14	12	3	29	
8. Chandwa	20	27	1	48	
9. Untari	7	13	...	20	
10. Bhowanathpur	8	11	7	26	
11. Chhatarpur	7	10	2	19	
12. Daltonganaj	26	20	10	56	
Total	169	213	69	451	

Number of applications received under the Land Improvement Loans Act.

	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3
November	Nil	2
December		2
January		26
February (up to 15th)		8
Total	Nil	38

Number of applications received under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.

	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3
November ... ..	.....	1
December ... ..	.....	62
January	15	180
February (up to 15th)	118	13
Total ...	133	256

13. There are two reasons for there not being more persons on the relief ~~test~~ works during the fortnight under report, viz., (1) that owing to the rainfall it became possible to do some field work, and many persons left the relief works for the field works. This is as it should be; and (2) that the rate fixed by the Commissioner of the Division for all works, viz., Rs. 2-8 per 1,000 cubic feet, is nearly less by half in some cases, particularly tank excavation work, than what people are entitled to be paid under the note prepared by the Hon'ble Mr. J. G. H. Glass, C.I.R., Chief Engineer to the Government of Bengal, dated 24th December 1896, published with Bengal Government Revenue Department Circular No. 74, dated the 31st December 1896, and forwarded to all District Officers for information and guidance.

For example, let me cite a case falling under Table No. 8 (A), stiff and hard soil. According to Mr. Glass, the gang should consist of seven diggers, three women and three boys, and the task to be assigned would be 352 cubic feet; the cost at the rates given by Mr. Glass would be Rs. 4-15-6 per 1,000 cubic feet:—

$$\begin{aligned} 7 \times 32 &= 224 \\ 3 \times 26 &= 78 \\ 3 \times 20 &= 60 \end{aligned}$$

362 cubic feet the task.

$$362 : 1,000 :: \text{Rs. } 1-12-0$$

$$\frac{1,000 \times \text{Rs. } 1-12}{362} = \frac{28,000}{362} = 4 \text{ Rs. } 13 \text{ P. } 6$$

At the Commissioner's rate of—

Per man	...	...	...	...	1 10
„ woman	...	...	...	...	1 7
„ child	...	...	...	...	0 11

applied to the said gang of seven men, three women and three children, the wage would come to Rs. 1-6-4, and this wage, applied to the aforementioned task of 362 cubic feet, would be Rs. 3-13-8, thus:—

$$362 : 1,000 :: \text{Rs. } 1-6-4$$

$$\frac{1,000 \times \text{Rs. } 1-6-4}{362} = \frac{268,000}{362} = 3 \text{ Rs. } 13 \text{ P. } 8$$

But I am, under Commissioner's orders, allowed to pay only Rs. 2-3 for 1,000 cubic feet, no matter what the depth or lead; the difference therefore at Commissioner's rate is Rs. 3-13-8—Rs. 2-3 = Rs. 1-10-8 per 1,000 cubic feet. This is a very large difference; and it is, therefore, no wonder that the people refuse to work on tank work, and leave such work and go long distances to other works. The importance of tank work is being pressed on Collectors of famine districts by Government, but I do not see my way to giving effect to the wishes of Government until the Commissioner is pleased to sanction tank work at the rates given in Mr. Glass' note.

14. No cases of relief under section 12 of the Famine Code were reported during the fortnight.

Statement showing particulars of advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act in this district up to 15th February 1897.

NAME OF THANA.	Name of village in which improvement is to be made.	Nature of improvement.	Amount of loans applied for.	AMOUNT OF INSTALLMENTS ALREADY ADVANCED.			Average daily number of labourers during fortnight under review.	Rate of wage per 1,000 cubic feet.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of previous fortnight.	During fortnight under review.	Total of columns 5 and 6.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs. 477	.....	Rs. 477			

No advances given in this fortnight, as under orders of the Commissioner the giving of such advances have been limited to purchase of cattle by tenants paying rents direct to Government, and this, too, under certain specified restrictions only. Under this Act, 356 applications covering Rs. 42,492 have been previously filed, and 13 applications covering Rs. 1,270, during the period under report.

Statement giving particulars of advances sanctioned under the Land Improvement Loans Act in the District of Palaman up to 15th February 1897.

NAME OF THANA.	Name of village in which improvement is to be made.	Nature of improvements.	Amount of loans applied for.	AMOUNT OF INSTALLMENT ALREADY ADVANCED.			Average daily number of labourers during fortnight under review.	Rate of wage per 1,000 cubic feet.	Remarks (here state terms on which loan in each case has been made.)
				Up to end of previous fortnight.	During fortnight under review.	Total of columns 5 and 6.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Nil.					

No advances sanctioned during the half-month under report owing to there being no officer available for making the preliminary enquiries required by the rule. Officers have now been posted to the district, and I expect to do much in the line during the ensuing fortnight. Under this Act, 29 applications covering Rs. 19,475 have been previously filed and 8 applications covering Rs. 3,350 during period under report.

Statement showing particulars of expenditure on Agricultural Improvements in Government Estates in the District of Palaman for the fortnight ending the 15th February 1897.

NAME OF ESTATE.	Name of village.	Nature of improvements.	Estimated total cost of improvement.	AMOUNT OF INSTALLMENTS ALREADY ADVANCED.			AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF LABOURERS DURING FORTNIGHT UNDER REVIEW.			Rate of wages per 1,000 cubic feet.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of previous fortnight.	During fortnight under review.	Total of columns 5 and 6.	Men.	Women.	Children.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Palaman Government estate.	Mundaria	Embankment	Rs. 200	Rs. A. P. 4,398 12 9	Rs. 100	Rs. A. P.					
	Chechandha	Do.	160	.....	75						
	Jungoor	Do.	100	(Already shown in the previous statement.)	80						
	Budbuchak	Do.	100	.....	80						
	Kundri	Do.	100	.....	80						
	Total		.....	4,358 12 9	325	4,683 12 9	Not available.				The same as given in the previous statement.

Statement showing prices of rice in different hâts of the Palamau District for the week ending 15th February 1897.

Serial No.	Name of thana.	Name of outposts.	Under 8 seers per rupee.	At 8 seers per rupee.	Over 8 seers but below 9 seers per rupee.	At 9 seers per rupee.	Over 9 seers but below 10 seers per rupee.	At 10 seers per rupee.	Over 10 seers but below 11 seers per rupee.	At 11 seers and over per rupee.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	Daltonganj	Panki	1	...	4	5	* In all the hâts of the Manatu outpost rice was sold at 7 seers pukka per rupee. † At Mahuadand police-station and Hariharganj outpost rice was sold at 9 seers 8 chitaks per rupee.
	Ditto	Lesliganj	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
2	Ranka	Bhandaria	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
3	Mahuadand	Garoo	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
4	Latchar	Ker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Ditto		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Huseenabad	Bhaunathpur	...	...	...	7	1	...	...	...	8
6	Balumath	Chandwa	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	11
	Ditto		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Patan	Bisrampur	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	4
	Do	Manatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Chhattarpur	Hariharganj	3	3	
	Ditto		...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	3
9	Garhwa	Nagar Untari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Do.		
		Total	15	1	21	41	137	91	

Statement showing rates of wages paid on relief works including test works and tasks exacted.

DISTRICT.	RATES OF DAILY WAGES AND TASKS.										Grain on which wage calculated under section 144 of the Famine Code.	Retail price of the grain in column 13 (number of seers for a rupee.)	Rate per 1,000 c. ft. of earthwork.	REMARKS.
	MAN.		WOMAN.		BIG CHILD.		SMALL CHILD.		ADULT MALE UNIT.					
	Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Wage.	Task.	Average wage.	Average task.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Palamau—	A. P.	C. ft.	A. P.	C. ft.					A. P.	C. ft.			Rs. A.	
Maximum	1 10	100 cutting.	1 7	90 carrying.					1 9	50	Common rice.	9 seers	2 3	No minimum wage is given.
Minimum														

The rate of wages was calculated according to the Commissioner's memorandum forwarded with his No. 401T.—M.R., dated the 24th January 1897 (copy annexed).
Forwarded in continuation of this office No. 1871R. of the 17th February 1897.

R. H. KENNY,
Deputy Commissioner, Palamau.

Memorandum of Calculation of Wages.

THE test works show that the present proportion of men, women, big children and little children attending work is 4, 2, 1 and 1. The soil in this district may be taken generally to be hard. The cutting and carrying of 300 cubic feet can be done by three men cutting 300 cubic feet, carrying —

	C. ft.
1½ Man	12
2 Women	18
1 Big boy	6
1 Small boy	3
Total	39

Thus to arrive at the proper price to be paid for cutting and carrying 300 cubic feet, we must deduct the wage of the 2 boys leaving only that of the 4 men and 2 women. The price to be paid thus comes (under section 103 and Appendix V of Famine Code) to—

For each A class man—

Rice (at 9 seers per rupee)	...	...	...	...	As. p.
Pulse	...	...	...	...	1 4
Salt, oil, vegetable, &c.	...	...	...	...	0 3
					0 3
					1 10

For each A class woman—

Rice	...	...	...	...	1 2
Pulse	...	...	...	...	0 3
Vegetable, &c.	...	...	...	...	0 2
					1 7

So that the wage of 4 men and 2 women will be $4 \times 1a. 10p. + 2 \times 1a. 7p. = 10a. 6p.$ or $3a. 6p.$ per 100 cubic feet, or Rs. 2-3 per 1,000 cubic feet.

APPENDIX II.

Daily report of famine relief works of Palamau district for the 16th February 1897.

Name of circle.	Date.	Description of works.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Quantity of work done.	Amount paid in cash.	Amount paid in grain.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Relief Works.									
Panki	16th February 1897	Road	307	197	323	827	30,723	86 14 0	...
Leshganj	16th	Tank	60	40	26	126	5,408	5 8 0	1 18 9
Letchar	16th	Road	122	87	24	233	...	Not given.	...
Gachwa	16th	Tank	131	86	...	217	9,239	30 3 3	...
Shahpur	16th	Handh	186	119	25	330	15,602	15 8 0	4 3 12
Nawa	16th	Road	107	65	31	193	8,443	18 9 6	...
Untari	16th	Road	383	389	12	777	37,060	37 0 6	9 28 1
			1,293	966	440	2,679			
Gratuitous Relief.									
Ranba	16th February 1897		13	25	35	73		4 12 3	...
Letchar	16th		9	18	4	31		Not given.	...
Leshganj	16th		14	21	1	36		2 7 8	...
Gachwa	16th		27	25	1	53		3 11 6	...
Harharganj	16th		10	13	...	23		1 9 6	...
Panki	16th		15	11	3	29		3 0 0	...
Untari	16th		7	14	...	21		1 6 0	...
Bhaunathpur	16th		16	23	1	40		Not given.	...
Chhatrapur	16th		9	13	3	25		1 9 3	...
Burespur	16th		1	3	4	8		Not given.	...
Daltonganj	16th		33	22	11	66		Not given.	...
			164	183	62	409			

No. 4F., dated Daltonganj, the 18th February 1897.

Memo. by—The Deputy Commissioner of Palamau.

SUBMITTED to the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division for information.

APPENDIX III.

Extract from demi-official letter, dated 18th February 1897, from the Commissioner of Chota Nagpur, to the address of the Deputy Commissioner of Palamau.

If you examine Resolution No. 420M.P., dated 25th January 1897, and enclosures, you will find in Glass' note with blue cover, page 13, that the aggregate work for seven men, three women and three boys is as under, in cubic feet—

$$\begin{aligned} 7 \times 53 &= 371 \\ 3 \times 43 &= 129 \\ 3 \times 32 &= 96 \end{aligned}$$

Total ... 596, or, say, 600 cubic feet, while their wages (Appendix IV of the

Resolution), at 9 seers per rupee, will be—

	As.	P.
7 × 1·6 =	10	6
3 × 1·6 =	4	6
3 × 1 =	3	0

Total ... 18 0 annas for 600 cubic feet = Re 1-14 for 1,000 cubic feet, or

if the men are all paid as *able-bodied*—

	As.	P.
7 × 2 =	14	0
3 × 1·6 =	4	6
3 × 1 =	3	0

Total ... 21 6 for 600 cubic feet = Rs. 2-3-10 for 1,000 cubic feet. Again,

if you take an equal number of men, women and children, you get $\frac{1800}{3} = 19$ men, $\frac{1800}{4} = 23$ women, $\frac{1800}{3} = 31$ boys—

	As.
and 19 × 2 =	38
23 × 1·6 =	35
31 × 1 =	31

3)104

35 or about Rs. 2-3 per 1,000 cubic feet.

So that the rate I fixed, viz., Rs. 2-3 per 1,000 cubic feet is the *highest* rate allowable, taking all the men as *able-bodied*. If you take them as "adult men unable to do a full task," then the rate should be cut down to Re. 1-14 per 1,000 cubic feet, but I do not wish to do this yet. But if rice falls to 10 seers per rupee, we shall have to make a reduction.

Our rates at present are *full* rates, and I agree with Sir A. P. MacDonnell that in ordinary works lead and lift may be disregarded. It is only where, in the centre of a big tank, for instance, the lead becomes excessive, any increase should be allowed. This is another reason why I wish Sunder to be in charge of the big tanks about Lesliganj, &c. He is a thoroughly intelligent man, and will understand my instructions much better than most native Deputies or Sub-Deputies.

APPENDIX IV.

No. 1555R., dated Purulia, the 19th February 1897.

From—H. LUSON, Esq., I.C.S., Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum,
To—The Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division.

I HAVE the honour to submit my fortnightly report for the period 1st to 15th January 1897 in accordance with section 24 of the Bengal Famine Code.

2. (1) *Area affected during the period under report and approximate estimate of the portion of the population affected; number of relief circles and of officers in charge.*—In my report No. 1459R., dated the 3rd instant, for the period 16th to 31st January 1897, submitted in accordance with section 13 of the Code, I gave the following areas, with population, those for which anxiety was felt:—

Thana.	Area in question.	Population.
1	2	3
Gobindpur and Tundi ...	478	109,530
Nirsha ...	170	58,675
Chas ...	237	100,487
Jhalda ...	396	102,320
Total ...	1,281	371,012
Figures for whole district ...	4,147	1,193,328

In my report No. 1356R., dated the 19th ultimo, submitted in accordance with section 10 of the Code, I did not include the Jhalda thana in the area likely to be affected. It

was added in my report of the 3rd instant, as the police report under section 161 of the Code stated that the labouring classes were in distress, and some people were not getting two meals a day; and as the tahsildar of the Begunkodar Ward's Estate in a similar report stated that the poorer classes in his tahsil were in distress, being unable to get work or sufficient food, a test work was accordingly opened at the village of Khatgaon, in the Jhalda thana, on the 9th instant, under the personal superintendence of the District Engineer. This work was to be the construction of the *bundh* on a somewhat extensive scale, which had been sanctioned from the funds of the Begunkodar Ward's Estate. The District Engineer reports that as a test work it has been a failure, as only 12 men were attracted to it at the rates allowed, viz., 2 annas per 100 cubic feet, with a lead of not more than 50 feet, and half an anna more for every additional 50 feet of lead. The District Engineer was interviewed by a large number of labourers and the poorer class of cultivators, who complained of very great privations, but they declined to work for less than 3 annas a 100 cubic feet. Regarding his recent visit to Khatgaon to start this work, he states:—"I have seen several parts of the Jhalda thana, and from what I heard and saw, I have no hesitation in saying that there is some abnormal distress amongst the poor cultivators and labourers; but they did not appear to me to have come to the end of their own resources. I quite believe that many of them have to supplement their little stock of rice with a good deal of jungly fruits, bulbs, roots, &c., but they did not appear to be any worse in health for all that."

It is the custom in this district for the lower classes to eat jungle products, and in view of the failure of the test-work at Khatgaon and the District Engineer's report I think the Jhalda thana need not be considered an affected area for the present. The reports of the Jhalda police and the tahsildar recently received are also somewhat more reassuring; but as regards the other areas I think they are clearly affected, viz.:—

Thana.	Area in question.	Population.
1	2	3
Gobindpur and Tundi ...	478	109,530
Nirsha	170	68,676
Chas	237	100,487
Total ...	885	268,692
Figures for the whole district ...	4,147	1,193,328

During the fortnight I myself visited the thanas of Gobindpur, Tundi and Nirsha, and I despatched the Sub-Deputy Collector, lately in charge of settlement operations in this district, to Chas. Three best relief works were opened, as mentioned in my last report, in the Tundi thana on the border of the Nirsha jurisdiction. On my visit to these works, I found (see below) that they were not being conducted on the task work system. I closed one entirely, and reopened the other two on strictly task principles. They have not yet been in work on these principles for a sufficient time to enable me to judge with certainty of their result. A test-work is in progress at Chas, but the result will not be certain for some days. Notwithstanding that distress has not yet been fully established by test-works in the Gobindpur, Tundi, Nirsha, and Chas thanas, I have little doubt of its existence. I myself examined, with the Civil Hospital Assistant at Gobindpur, a large number of the persons in receipt of gratuitous relief there, and found most of them anæmic and emaciated. I also examined various of the persons being relieved in this way at Pokhuria. At the beginning of the fortnightly period I was on tour in the south and centre of the district, and have thus been able to make a comparison, from what I have seen myself, of the parts of the district which are best off with those which are mentioned above as affected. No relief circles have yet been formed. As soon, however, as the test-works declare the necessity, which I expect will be in a few days, I shall form four relief circles corresponding with the four thanas above mentioned.

3. (2) *General state of the affected tracts during the half-month under report; crop prospects; food-stocks; importation or exportation of food-grains; rainfall; public health; emigration or immigration of famished people; condition of cattle.*—In the areas in question, the chief features are want of work for the labourers, and failure of many of the very poor, who are usually dependent upon charity, to obtain sufficient food to keep them in health. The labourers are not yet reduced for want of food. I went round all the gangs on the test-works near Pokhuria, and agree with the Revd. A. Campbell, who accompanied me, that they did not show signs of emaciation. A number of cultivators complained to me at Gobindpur, and the least seemly of them said that their appearance was due to hunger; but the Civil Hospital Assistant by whom I had them examined declared that they showed no signs of want of nourishment, being lean from old age and other causes. Our chief care in the affected thanas should, I think, be devoted just now to the beggars, widows, orphans and others without support who are unable to work.

Regarding crop prospects, I have to say that in these thanas there is very little on the ground except sugarcane which has lately been transplanted and will not be reaped for ten months, and some *arhar* in the Chas thana. There are in places patches of *rabi* (wheat and barley chiefly), but in the Tundi thana there is scarcely any *rabi* at all. There in, however, a great food staple in all the affected thanas, and especially in Gobindpur, Tundi and Nirsha, viz., the *mahua* tree. If this yields a full crop, a very great deal of our anxiety will for the present be removed. It is reported that the *mahua* was damaged somewhat in thana Chandil by hail, but in the affected thanas and in the rest of the district it has been benefited by the recent rain. If during the next few weeks we have fine weather, the crop should be a good one. Mangoes this season will yield very poorly, but they are not of much account.

As to food-stocks, I think that the mahajans and the better class of cultivators have stocks sufficient to support the population in their neighbourhoods for a considerable time; but as long as there is no work to do in the fields, they will not share their grain with those who have none.

Two thousand five hundred and sixty-two maunds of food-grains were imported during the week ending the 13th instant from outside the district at the stations on the Jharra extension of the East Indian Railway, which runs through thanas Gobindpur and Nirsha, and not far from thanas Tundi and Chas, as compared with 1,850 maunds in the previous week. I found that there is also a considerable importation of grain from Barakar by road into thanas Nirsha and Tundi. I am endeavouring to have this registered. There is, I am glad to say, little difficulty about the supply of grain in the affected areas. Its exceedingly high price and the poverty of the poorer classes cause the trouble here. The number of people wishing to emigrate from the district to Assam is increasing, but more people go to the railway works in the next district: numbers of people are reported to have gone to the Raniganj subdivision to find work at the collieries, but have returned unsuccessful, as the coal trade is dull. A good many up-country men have come into this jurisdiction to find work in the coal-mines here, but many of such mines have closed or reduced their establishment.

No cattle-disease is reported from the affected thanas. Cow-pox exists in several other thanas, and I am arranging with the Civil Veterinary Department to obtain the services of a suitable officer to investigate it. The recent rain has for a time improved the supply of food and drink for cattle.

4. (3) *Number of relief works open in or near the affected tracts; the numbers, if any, paid by daily wages and those paid by task work.*—There is no "relief work" open in the district, but there are nine test-works in progress; of these, seven are being carried out at the expense of the District Road Cess Fund, one at the expense of a Court of Ward's estate, and one at the expense of an Encumbered Estate.

The first test-works opened were those in the Gobindpur subdivision which were started on the 30th ultimo. On the 31st idem there were employed on them (i) 104 men, (ii) 58 women and (iii) 18 children. By the 3rd instant the total number had risen to 1,558. The numbers further increased till they reached with dependents 2,871. Last week I visited these works and superintended the measurement by the subdivisional overseer of the work done. Two of the works were the excavation of new tanks, and the third was the re-excavation of an existing tank. The workers were paid daily wages at the following rates, 6 pice for a man, 5 pice for a woman and 3 pice for a child. The soil on which these works were being executed was very stony and hard, and stout pickaxes were required. Taking, however, the lowest tasks for work in hard soil under famine conditions given in the table forwarded with Bengal Government's Revenue (Agriculture) Circular No. 74, dated the 31st December 1896, viz., 53 cubic feet a day for a man, 43 cubic feet for a woman and 32 cubic feet for a child, and reducing these figures to 50, 40, and 30, for easy calculation, I worked out the following results:—

			Cubic ft.
<i>Pokhuria East Tank—</i>			
Work which should have been done at these rates	...	...	275,400
Work actually done (a little less than)	...	...	100,000
<i>Pokhuria West Tank—</i>			
Work which should have been done	...	...	169,200
Work actually done (about)	...	...	44,000
<i>Pandua Tank (re-excavation)—</i>			
Work which should have been done	...	...	202,300
Work actually done (a little less than)	...	...	40,000

The ground is, however, generally much harder than that of the Gangetic plain for which the tasks in question were prescribed; the soil of the Pokhuria west tank is particularly hard; and the work on the Pandua tank consisted of removing mud (an unsuitable work as a test, and I have closed this work). It was nevertheless clear that full tasks were not exacted. The workers were all arranged in suitable gangs and their places properly marked out, but their work was not properly measured up, and there was no doubt idling. The Subdivisional Officer explains that more work might have been done, but at first there were only a few suitable implements. The Subdivisional Officer, however, neglected to observe the provision in section 11 of the Famine Code, that test-works are to be opened on the strict condition that labour is paid for at task rates, not daily wages. He treated these works

as relief works. As soon as I found out, after measurement of the work, the state of affairs, I stopped further payment on daily wages, closed the Pandua work as unsuitable for several reasons, and directed the reopening of the other two works strictly on the task-work system of 2½ annas a hundred cubic feet. Heavy rain just then happened to soften the soil, and the workers consented to work at this rate. A report which I have just received from the Sub-divisional Officer states that, although the supply of tools is not yet quite sufficient, both the works are fully occupied with workers (about 1,500, including men, women and children), and there were on Tuesday, the 17th instant hundreds of others begging for work and offering to work for less than 2½ annas a 100 cubic feet. Thus, though a mistake was made by the Sub-divisional Officer in the method of conducting these works, it appears now that they disclose the existence of distress. I consider, however, that they should be tried for some days further at the rates above quoted. In consequence of the recent rain, ploughing is now going on apace in most of the districts, and it is desirable to see how this affects the workers on the test-works.

I have no exact information as to the works being conducted by private agency. A few such works are being carried out on a small scale by zamindars, talukdars, &c., but the amount of work on this account is less than usual at this time of year, as the persons mentioned cannot, owing to the high price of food, afford to spend much on them. In the Tundi Encumbered Estate and the Nagarkhari Wards' Estate in the Gobindpur thana, I have already allowed a number of applications for small works such as petty embankments. In this district not much assistance is to be expected from the zamindars; but as a number of their estates are under management, I am able to afford considerable aid to the tenants and their dependents. I have already thrown open to free grazing all the forests on such estates, and have declined, in accordance with what I believe is generally customary, to enforce for the present at least any claims by tahsildars for payments for woods, &c., taken by persons from these forests for their own use.

(4) *Number of poor-houses open and scale of food distributed.*—No poor-house has been opened, but gratuitous relief is being administered at Gobindpur under the superintendence of the Sub-Registrar and at Pokhuria under the superintendence of the Revd. A. Campbell of the Sonthal Free Church Mission. At all the police thanas and outposts in the district funds are at the disposal of the officers in charge for gratuitous relief. The provisions of Chapter V of the Code are being followed. The District Superintendent of Police is devoting his attention to this. Grain doles are almost invariably given. The recipients are mostly old men, women and children and disabled persons. The scale is ½ a seer of rice for an adult and ¼ seer for a child. Section 44 of the Code only provides for such doles being in grain. I have found it necessary, however, to add salt at the rate specified in section 99, viz., ½ oz. to a pound of rice. I discovered that a number of the people who received doles of rice were eating it without salt. This much diminished the value of the doles to them. The doles are made in the presence of the distributing officer.

I have, in consultation with the Sub-divisional Officer, selected a site for a poor-house at Gobindpur, but the time has not yet come for opening such an institution I think. If the mahua crop is a good one, the necessity for poor-houses will be deferred.

The gratuitous doles appear to me to be the best form of relief for the poorest and most helpless people at present.

(5) *Organisation for employment of artisans, women, &c., at their houses.*—Nil.

(6) *Organisation for the distribution of grain doles or money doles.*—See above under (4).

(7) *Relief in kitchens.*—Nil.

(8) *Number of persons to whom loans under the Land Improvement Act or under the Agriculturists' Loans Act have been made.*—I have not made any such advances during the fortnight. I have Rs. 7,950 in hand for such grants. By the orders of the Government of India this money is to be used for the employment of labour under famine relief conditions and restrictions. I am accordingly waiting to see where, on the results of the various test-works in progress, this money can be most advantageously allotted: 112 applications for such loans have been received during the fortnight; of these, 89 were filed at Barrabazar in the south of the district in the neighbourhood of which I was in camp on the 5th, 6th and 7th instant. There is no apprehension of distress in that part of the district at present.

(9) *Financial statement for the fortnight.*—

A.—Receipts—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Grants from the district Road Cess Fund	2,435 11 0

B.—Expenditure—

(a) On 3 test-works opened in Gobindpur subdivision on 30th January 1897 (inclusive of amount spent on 30th and 31st January)	...	...	1,204 3 9
Tools and baskets	546 15 0
(b) On relief by grain or money doles	395 0 0

Total expenditure	2,146 2 9
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C.—Balance	289 8 3
------------	-----	-----	---------

(10) *Account of economic condition of the affected tracts and of crops affected and extent to which they have suffered; the contingencies on which the probable duration of distress depends; the position of the affected area as to local trade; food-supply and communications and other general information which may be useful.*—These items have been dealt with in my previous reports quoted above and in this report *supra*.

The following regarding the affected thanas are taken from the police reports submitted under sections 1 and 161 of the Code.

Thana Gobindpur.—Some 10 or 15 strangers in a destitute condition daily pass down the Grand Trunk Road, and are relieved. Many people in the thana require gratuitous relief, and are receiving it.

Thana Nirsha.—The people who cannot work and the labouring people who have others to support are in distress, and are coming to the thana for relief.

Thana Tundi.—Most of the poorer people are in distress, but only those who cannot work are being relieved at the thana.

Thana Chas.—Needy and starving persons are coming to the thana and getting relief. The reports of the tahsildars employed in Wards' and Encumbered Estates in these thanas are to the effect that the poorer people are destitute, and the poorer labourers do not get sufficient food.

The Sub-Deputy Collector's report concerning thana Chas is to the effect that relief will be required there. A relief work is in progress under a sub-overseer.

(11) *The condition of the tract outside the affected thanas.*—The reports do not show that, except in the case of the Katras outpost of the Topchanchi thana adjoining the Gobindpur thana, any material change has taken place during the fortnight. In areas adjoining the thanas which I have mentioned above as affected, four test works in different places are in progress, and I am about to open another.

A death from starvation—the only one reported in the district—was reported from the Katras outpost as having occurred on the 10th instant. The District Superintendent of Police who was in camp with me in Gobindpur on receipt of this information at once visited the village (and adjoining villages) in which this death was said to have occurred. He reports that the person in question was a young man of 25 or 30, whose crops had failed and who had been unable to obtain work. He had been to Katras to borrow money, and on his return was taken ill with purging and vomiting, and died shortly afterwards. The District Superintendent is not sure that he died of starvation, but thinks that he ate some jungle products which poisoned him. The people in the neighbourhood clamoured for assistance from Government, but told Mr. Briscoe that they would work at earth-cutting for 9 pice a 100 cubic feet; they said they would work for the usual rates. He thinks that test-works there would probably not draw at present. Such a work is being opened at Katras to-day.

On the 17th instant I telegraphed to you that the recent rain throughout the district had been very timely in benefiting the *mahua* and in rendering the soil fit for ploughing. I have recently seen many ploughs at work, and am in hopes of a good *mahua* crop. The outlook is therefore somewhat higher than when I submitted my last report. My action is now being devoted to the effective working of test-works in different places and to the distribution of gratuitous relief freely, but not unduly, to the helpless poor. I expect, during the present fortnight, to have to open two regular relief works in the Gobindpur subdivision and to give out a large portion of the amount I have available for advances.

The map prescribed in section 27 of the Code is herewith submitted. The statements prescribed in sections 26 and 27 *idem* will follow immediately.

APPENDIX V.

No. 1619R., dated Hazaribagh, the 17th February 1897.

From—The Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh,

To—The Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division.

Fortnightly Famine Report of the district of Hazaribagh under sections 13 and 24 for the fortnight ending 15th February 1897.

General condition.—There has been no marked change during the fortnight. In view of possible distress among certain sections owing to continued high prices of food-grains, I have developed plans for assisting those in want of every grade by providing work in aid for them. Road work and works of improvements have been arranged for at 35 different places in the district. Cotton thread-making will be given to *bhadralok* and *zenana* women. Kitchens will be opened where helpless people are found from enquiries now in progress. I do not yet see reason for thinking there will be "pressure before April."

2. *Prospects of crops.*—*Rabi* promises well. *Mahua* not out yet. There has been much cloud and rain, which is unfavourable, if it continues another week, to the *mahua* crop.

3. *Prices.*—Statements showing number of *hats* and the selling price (per rupee) of rice, *marua*, *makai* and *mahua* for the first two weeks of January and of February are submitted herewith. Prices of rice show no tendency to get harder, but *makai* is now in many places as dear as common rice.

4. *Importation by rail.*—Statements 8 and 9 will follow.
5. *Statistics of traffic on the Grand Trunk Road (Dunua).*—I ordered statistics of traffic down the Grand Trunk Road to be prepared, and will give this fortnight, if the figures are received, or next fortnight at latest.
6. *Rainfall.*—

At Sadar	...	...	...	...	...	1.16
„ Giridih	...	...	...	...	...	0.80
7. *Public health.*—Very good.
8. *Emigration.*—Three thousand one hundred and forty-four persons emigrated from this district during the month of January 1897, against 959 persons in January 1896. This is emigration through depôts and irrespective of free emigration to the Duars, of which no figures are kept.
9. *Number and nature of public works opened in the district.*—A comparative statement showing the particulars required is submitted herewith. Works opened within the last few days are not shown.
10. *Test works.*—The works shown in the above statement against Road Cess Department are to be treated as test-works. If they attract large crowds of labourers, they will be converted into regular famine works.
11. *Relief under section 12, additional.*—Rupees 230 have been paid to the thanas and outpost officers for giving gratuitous relief as directed in section 12 of the Famine Code. Every thana has been giving small amount of relief.
12. *Loans.*—Five applications for loan of Rs. 1,650 have been received up to date against nil in the previous year. Further applications are expected. *Parwanas* have been issued everywhere calling for them. Applications will be dealt with next month when the full number has been received.
13. *Condition of cattle.*—Very little disease reported.
14. *Rates of wages.*—The rate given on ordinary works is Re. 1-9 per 1,000 cubic feet for municipal estate and road cess, or As. 2-6 per *laggi* of 10 × 10 feet. Public Works Department rates remain unchanged.
15. *Organisation for employment of artisans, women, &c.*—*Parwanas* have been issued to all thana and outpost officers to prepare, with the assistance of the *chaukidar* of each village, lists of *bhadralok* and other persons unable to work at earthwork who require relief. The system of making thread from cotton has already been introduced into the town of Hazaribagh. The number of persons employed in cotton-spinning during the fortnight under report was 109 women. The quantity of 3 maunds and 15 seers of cotton was distributed during the fortnight. Only one seer of thread was received from one woman, and annas 6 was paid to her as compensation for the labour. When the *mufassal* lists are ready, the services of the *gurus* and inspecting *pandits* will be utilized in distributing cotton and doles in the *mufassal*, unless regular relief circles are called for in any locality.
16. *Relief in kitchens.*—Particulars are given in Statement 6 annexed.

FORM No. 6.

[See Section 26 (ii) of the Code.]

DISTRICT HAZARIBAGH.

Statement of gratuitous relief for the fortnight ending 15th February 1897.

NAME OF CIRCLE AND HEADS OF GRATUITOUS RELIEF.	NUMBER OF PERSONS RECEIVING GRATUITOUS RELIEF.				Money expended.
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Kitchens ... ..	..	..	..	..	Ra. A. P.
Hazaribagh	15	8	21	44	33 11 0
Barhi	14	2	3	19	14 1 9
Total	29	10	24	63	47 12 9

FORM No. 7.

[See Section 26 (iii) of the Code.]

FAMINE STATEMENT E.

DISTRICT HAZARIBAGH.

Abstract Statement of relief works and gratuitous relief for the half-month ending 15th February 1897.

WEEK.	A, B, C AND D WORKERS PAID BY TASK-WORK.				WORKERS PAID BY DAILY WAGES IRRESPECTIVE OF TASK.		Total amount disbursed on task-work and daily labour.	GRATUITOUS RELIEF.		Amount expended.
	Average number of male units per diem.	Work done per diem by each male unit.	Wage earned by each male unit per diem.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.	Average number of male unit per diem.	Wage earned by each male unit per diem.		Number of adult unit in receipt of gratuitous relief.	Average dole.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Weeks ending 7th and 14th February 1897.	21	Cooked meal	Rs. A. P. 47 12 9

Statement showing the numbers and nature, &c., of public works open in the District of Hazaribagh for the 1st half-month of February 1897.

Department.	NATURE OF WORK.	DAILY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED.																REMARKS.
		3RD WEEK OF JANU- ARY 1897.				4TH WEEK OF JANU- ARY 1897.				1ST WEEK OF FEBRU- ARY 1897.				2ND WEEK OF FEBRU- ARY 1897.				
		Number of works.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Number of works.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Number of works.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Number of works.	Men.	Women.	Children.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Public Works Depart- ment.	Building works ...	17	373	46	145	17	361	46	181	17	210	31	130	17	286	16	183	
	Road works ...	7	502	110	60	7	583	53	31	7	404	96	47	7	411	90	15	
	Maintenance of trees ...	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	...	...
	Repairing wells and culverts	2	9	...	4	2	11	87	46	2	13	1	3	2	10	...	...
Road Cess Department and establishment under Government management.	Repairing and bridges.	...	...	...	...	...	4	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Earthwork	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	64	40	33	
	Earthworkl	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	59	12	19	
	Road-making	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	173	...	...
Municipality ...	Jungle-cutting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...
	Trench-excavating	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...
	Drain-sweeping	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	...	...
	Total	...	988	166	200	...	950	190	260	...	937	118	179	...	1,114	90	193	

Statement showing number of *hats* and the selling price per *rupee* of *mahua* for the first two weeks of January and February 1897.

NAME OF CROP.	SELLING PRICE.													
	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.
1	Under 16 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 16 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 17 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 17 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 18 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 18 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 19 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 19 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 20 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 21 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 21 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 22 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 22 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 24 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .
Mahua ...	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

NAME OF CROP.	SELLING PRICE.													
	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.	1st fortnight of January 1897.	1st fortnight of February 1897.
20	Under 16 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 16 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 17 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 17 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 18 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 18 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 19 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 19 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 20 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 21 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 21 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 22 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 22 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .	Under 24 <i>seers</i> per <i>rupee</i> .
Mahua ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

A. H. WARDE-JONES,
For Deputy Commissioner.

The 17th February 1897.

No. 231 State.—The following is published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta during March 1897.

NAMES OF MARTS.	Stock in hand as compiled on—				
	1st week of Mar. 1897. Mds.	2nd week of Feb. 1897. Mds.	3rd week of Feb. 1897. Mds.	4th week of Feb. 1897. Mds.	1st week of Mar. 1897. Mds.
Baliaghata	5,74,000	2,55,000	4,00,000	4,25,000	5,27,000
Ultadanga	69,000	12,000	15,000	20,100	20,900
Chitpur, Golabari, ... Hathhola, and Culpai Ghat...	6,05,800	1,10,500	1,11,700	1,23,700	1,30,200
Pathuriaghata, Posta, and Jorabagan	5,000	3,600	2,700	3,400	4,000
Tollygunge, Chetla, Kidderpore, and Munahiganj	2,67,300	1,30,500	1,43,800	1,38,100	1,51,000
Minor bazars (1) ...	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000
Other retail shops (1) ...	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000
Ramlristopur ² ...	.....	79,600	68,500	85,200	89,700
Baidyabati, Nawabganj, Bhadres- war, and Chandernagore ³ ...	15,241	7,202	9,747	16,910	7,286
Total	20,26,341	10,50,902	12,41,447	13,02,410	14,20,086
On Railway premises on both sides of the river.†	15,249 (on 3rd Mar. 1896).	73,529 (on 7th Feb. 1897).	51,335 (on 14th Feb. 1897.)	97,954 (on 21st Feb. 1897).	27,874 (on 28th Feb. 1897).
On boats unloaded— By Port Commissioners' returns	43,350 (1st to 3rd Mar. 1896).	48,804 (6th to 8th Feb. 1897).	1,09,140 (13th to 15th Feb. 1897.)	41,490 (20th to 22nd Feb. 1897.)	51,635 (27th Feb. to 1st Mar. 1897.)
By Canal returns	71,508 (1st to 3rd Mar. 1896).	83,546 (6th to 8th Feb. 1897).	45,951 (13th to 15th Feb. 1897.)	45,506 (20th to 22nd Feb. 1897).	56,324 (27th Feb. to 1st Mar. 1897.)
Grand Total of Stocks	21,56,448	12,98,906	14,47,873	14,87,360	15,55,919
					18,27,902

* This mart is in the Howrah district, and the figures have been obtained by local enquiry.
† Figures furnished by the Collector of Hooghly.
‡ Ditto by the Railway authorities.
(1) Estimated as a constant quantity.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 8th March 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF CALCUTTA IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 586 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 9th March 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Memorandum.

The sea-borne import and export traffic of Calcutta in food-grains during the week ending the 28th February 1896 and 1897 is shown in the following statement:—

		22ND TO 28TH FEBRUARY			
		1896.		1897.	
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Imports.</i>		Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
From Foreign Ports	...	.....	.....	82,152	1,11,818
" Indian "	...	41,859	56,975	115,575	1,57,310
Total	...	41,859	56,975	197,727	2,69,128
<i>Exports.</i>					
To Foreign Ports	...	242,009	3,29,401	73,593	1,00,168
" Indian "	...	53,653	73,028	3,246	4,418
Total	...	295,662	4,02,429	76,839	1,04,586

Imports.—The different staples comprising the import traffic are shown in the table below, and the figures for the week are compared with those for the corresponding period last year:—

		22ND TO 28TH FEBRUARY			
		1896.		1897.	
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Food-grains.</i>		Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
Rice	...	26,106	35,533	104,559	1,42,816
Paddy	...	11,070	15,068	9,412	12,811
Wheat	...	.....	.....	82,152	1,11,818
Gram and pulses	...	4,683	6,374	1,603	2,182
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	...	.....	.....	1	1
Total	...	41,859	56,975	197,727	2,69,128

The total quantity of rice received from Burma was 102,395 cwts., against 89,635 cwts. in the preceding week. The entire supply imported from Burma since the 1st November 1896 aggregates 1,313,544 cwts. No grain came from Chandbali in the week under report against 19,067 cwts. of rice and 8,696 cwts. of paddy in the corresponding period of last year. The importation of rice and paddy from Balasore fell off from 9,215 cwts. in the corresponding period of last year to 4,980 cwts. For the third time since December last a considerable supply of wheat arrived from the United States; this third supply amounted to 92,152 cwts., the total quantity received up to date being 394,134 cwts. The decline under gram and pulses was due to the cessation of imports from Chandbali, which contributed 3,728 cwts. in the same period in 1896.

Exports.—In the following statement the total quantity of each kind of food-grains exported by sea during the last week of February 1897 is compared with the figures for the corresponding period of 1896:—

	22ND TO 28TH FEBRUARY			
	1896.		1897.	
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Food-grains.</i>	Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
Rice	274,815	3,74,054	66,228	90,137
Paddy	736	1,002	.....	.....
Wheat	1,025	1,395	125	170
Gram and pulses	17,403	23,687	7,421	10,101
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	1,683	2,291	3,070	4,178
Total ...	295,662	4,02,429	76,839	1,04,586

The export trade in rice with foreign ports declined from 231,028 cwts. in the corresponding period of last year to 64,955 cwts. during the week under report. The exports in the preceding week were 137,657 cwts. There were no exports at all to the United Kingdom, Barbadoes, Muscat, Ceylon, Port Elizabeth, Aden, Persia and ports in the east coast of Africa, against 175,184 cwts. carried to those ports in the corresponding week of last year. To States other than Muscat, in Arabia 16,920 cwts. of rice were shipped during the week, against nil in 1896, while Mauritius imported 43,049 cwts., against only 22,996 cwts. in the corresponding week of last year. On the other hand, shipments to Natal were reduced from 21,286 cwts. to a trifling figure, namely, 439 cwts.

In the case of the coasting trade, the exports of rice decreased from 43,787 cwts. to 1,268 cwts.; those of paddy from 736 cwts. to nil; those of wheat from 878 cwts. to 125 cwts.; those of gram and pulses from 7,765 cwts. to 1,843, and those of miscellaneous food-grains from 487 cwts. to 10 cwts. The decrease in the rice trade was chiefly in the supplies carried to Bombay and Madras.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below.

Statement No. I, showing the Imports of Food-grains into Calcutta from Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 28th February 1896 and 1897.

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>From Indian Ports.</i>		Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Madras	Bimlipatam	{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	..... .....	..... .....	..... 174	..... .....	..... 174
	Coconada	{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	..... .....	..... .....	682 829	..... 1	682 830
	Calingapatam	{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	..... .....	..... .....	273 .....	..... .....	273
	Rangoon	{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	198 93,934	..... 3,633	..... 600	..... .....	198 93,167
	Moulmein	{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	..... 7,666	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... 7,666
	Akyab	{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	..... 896	..... 2,963	..... .....	..... .....	..... 3,859
Belasore	Balasore	{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	6,841 2,164	2,374 2,316	..... .....	..... .....	9,215 4,480
	Chandbali	{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	19,067	8,696	3,728 .....	..... .....	27,491
Total Indian Ports		{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	26,103 104,559	11,070 9,412	4,683 1,603	..... 1	41,859 115,676
<i>From Foreign Ports.</i>							
United States—San Francisco		{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	..... .....	..... 82,152	..... .....	..... .....	..... 82,152
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS		{ 1896 .. 1897 ..	26,103 104,559	11,070 9,412	4,683 82,152	..... 1	41,859 197,727

Statement No. II, showing the Exports of Food-grains from Calcutta to Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 28th February 1896 and 1897.

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>To Foreign Ports.</i>		Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
United Kingdom	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	45,794	...	...	1,614	...	47,408
Cape Colony	Cape Town { 1896 ... 1897 ...	6,000 1,911	...	...	59	...	6,059 1,911
	Port Elizabeth { 1896 ... 1897 ...	4,867	...	...	29	22	4,867 51
	East London { 1896 ... 1897 ...	1,154 147	...	...	...	...	1,154 147
	Algoa Bay { 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,816 367	...	...	...	...	3,816 367
	Mossel Bay { 1896 ... 1897 ...	592	...	...	...	...	592
	
Eastern Coast of Africa	Mombassa { 1896 ... 1897 ...	499	...	...	...	...	499
	Delagoa Bay { 1896 ... 1897 ...	947	...	...	7	...	954
Mauritius	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	22,996 43,049	...	147	5,589 4,544	1,075 2,965	29,807 50,558
Natal	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	21,286 439	...	...	1,867	33	23,186 439
West Indies—Barbadoes	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	27,578	...	...	...	...	27,578
Aden	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	5,836	...	...	59	...	5,895
Arabia	Maskat { 1896 ... 1897 ...	34,787	...	...	...	...	34,787
	Other States { 1896 ... 1897 ...	16,920	...	...	...	...	16,920
Ceylon	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	50,923	...	...	406	...	51,329
Formosa	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,953	...	...	...	...	3,953
British Settlements	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	128	...	...	37 235	88 73	125 436
Fiji Islands	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	1,994	...	...	770	...	2,764
Total Foreign Ports ... { 1896 ... 1897 ...		231,028 64,955	...	147	9,638 5,578	1,196 3,060	242,009 73,593

Ports.				Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1				2	3	4	5	6	7
To Indian Ports.				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Bombay	...	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	20,899	.....	...	622	.....	21,521
Madras	{ Madras	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	2,696	380	3,026
	
	{ Badagara	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	2,696	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,696
	
	{ Calicut	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	15,684	.....	.....	41	.....	15,676
	
Burma	{ Cochin	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	.....	733	.....	.....	.....	733
	
	{ Negapatam	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	147	.....	147
	
	{ Tellicherry	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	4,074	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,074
	
Chittagong	{ Rangoon	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	476	.....	870	3,672	156	5,174
		...	...	727	.....	1	1,388	10	2,127
	{ Akyab	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	6	3	8	130	.....	147
		...	...	5	.....	.....	116	.....	120
	{ Moulmein	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	3	.....	.....	121	.....	124
		...	...	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2
{ Sandoway	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	25	.....	25	
	...	...	.....	.....	.....	15	.....	15	
Balasore	{ Balasore	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	73	.....	73
		...	...	.....	.....	.....	112	.....	112
Travancore--Allepey	{ Chandbali	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	66	1	67
		...	...	8	.....	124	100	.....	232
Total Indian Ports	{	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	43,787	736	878	7,765	457	53,663
		...	...	1,268	.....	125	1,843	10	3,246
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS.	{	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	274,815	736	1,025	17,403	1,683	295,662
		...	...	66,223	.....	125	7,421	3,070	76,839

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF THE MINOR PORTS
IN BENGAL IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 587 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 9th March 1897.

MEMORANDUM.

The comparative statements below give statistics of the import and export trade of the minor ports of Chittagong, Narayanganj, Balasore (including both Balasore and Chandbali), Cuttack and Puri during the week ending 14th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896 :—

				IMPORTS.			
Ports.				From Foreign ports.	From Indian ports.	Total.	
				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Mds.
Chittagong	1896	...	...	.....	264	264	359
	1897	...	...	.....	8,899	8,899	12,113
Narayanganj	1896	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Balasore ports...	1896	...	...	.....	622	622	847
	1897	...	...	.....	270	270	367
Cuttack	1896	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puri	1896	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1896	...	...	.....	886	886	1,206
	1897	...	...	.....	9,169	9,169	12,480

				EXPORTS.			
Ports.				To Foreign ports.	To Indian ports.	Total.	
				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Mds.
Chittagong	1896	...	...	.....	7	7	10
	1897	...	...	.....	15	15	20
Narayanganj	1896	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Balasore ports...	1896	...	...	23,399	47,315	70,714	96,250
	1897	...	...	24,498	8,902	33,400	45,161
Cuttack	1896	...	...	10,570	10,291	20,861	28,394
	1897	...	...	8,409	.....	8,409	11,446
Puri	1896	...	...	6,322	4,158	10,480	14,264
	1897	...	...	14,106	.....	14,106	19,200
Total	1896	...	...	40,291	61,771	102,062	1,38,918
	1897	...	...	47,013	8,917	55,930	76,127

Of the total increase of 8,635 cwts. in the import trade of Chittagong, 4,203 cwts. were in paddy and 3,092 cwts. in rice received from Burma. The imports into Balasore fell off by and 352 cwts. on account of smaller despatches of wheat and gram and pulses from Calcutta.

In the case of Puri, the total exports showed an improvement of 3,626 cwts. The shipments of rice to Mauritius amounted to 14,106 cwts., against nil in 1896, while nothing was shipped to Madras and Colombo during the week under report, against 4,158 cwts. and 6,322 cwts., respectively, in 1896. The falling off of 37,314 cwts. under Balasore is attributed to smaller supplies of rice, paddy and gram and pulses sent to Calcutta. In consequence of the cessation of the exports of rice and gram and pulses to Indian ports, the trade of Cuttack also declined by 12,452 cwts.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below:—

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Chittagong from each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 14th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Indian Ports.</i>												
Burma { Akyah ...	...	2,202	...	4,203	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,405
Bangoon ...	...	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	800
Calcutta ...	...	...	...	...	13	...	210	158	80	...	264	158
Nilah ...	...	1,446	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,446
Total	...	4,338	...	4,253	15	...	210	158	80	...	264	8,899

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Chittagong from each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 14th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		TOTAL	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Indian Ports.</i>												
Burma—Akyah	...	7	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	15
Total	...	7	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	15

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Balasore from each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 14th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Indian Ports.</i>												
Calcutta	...	...	...	...	231	3	389	152	...	115	622	270
Total	...	...	...	...	231	3	389	152	...	115	622	270

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Balasore to each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 14th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Foreign Ports.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Maldives ... ..	.....	2,005	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,005
Mauritius	23,390	21,893	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23,390	21,893
Total	23,390	24,498	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23,390	24,498
Indian Ports.												
Calcutta	25,503	6,760	15,340	1,037	.....	.....	3,105	1,105	.....	.....	45,057	8,902
Madras-Tellichery	3,358	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,358	.....
Total	28,861	6,760	15,340	1,037	.....	.....	3,105	1,105	.....	.....	47,315	8,902
GRAND TOTAL	52,250	31,258	15,340	1,037	.....	.....	3,105	1,105	.....	.....	70,714	33,400

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from False Point in the Cuttack District to each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 14th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Foreign Ports.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Galle	1,740	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,740	.....
Columbo	8,656	8,400	.....	.....	.....	.....	185	.....	.....	.....	1,740	8,400
Total	10,395	8,400	.....	.....	.....	.....	185	.....	.....	.....	10,395	8,400
Indian Ports.												
Calcutta	3,634	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,634	.....
Cochin	1,200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,200	.....
Tellichery	1,408	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	.....	.....	.....	1,408	.....
Cannanore	1,183	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	270	.....	.....	.....	1,408	.....
Ponani	1,469	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,469	.....
Bombay	545	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	480	.....	.....	.....	1,025	.....
Total	9,503	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	759	.....	.....	.....	10,221	.....
GRAND TOTAL	19,898	8,400	.....	.....	.....	.....	943	.....	.....	.....	20,616	8,400

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Puri to each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 14th February 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Foreign Ports.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Mauritius ... ..	.....	14,106	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,106
Columbo	6,200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62	.....	.....	.....	6,262	.....
Total	6,200	14,106	.....	.....	.....	.....	62	.....	.....	.....	6,262	14,106
Indian Ports.												
Madras	4,158	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,158	.....
Total	10,418	14,106	.....	.....	.....	.....	62	.....	.....	.....	10,420	14,106

EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

No. 585 Statistics.—The following statement shows the quantities of rice and other food-grains carried by the East Indian Railway from Calcutta and Howrah during the period from 1st January to 27th February 1897, both dates inclusive. The total quantity so exported was 18,12,050 maunds, but information is available regarding the destination of 16,64,028 maunds only. Of the latter quantity, 11,82,395 maunds (or more than seven-tenths) were exported to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh; 2,31,852 maunds (or a little over one-seventh) to various parts of Bengal; and the rest (2,49,781 maunds) to other parts of India.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 9th March 1897.

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Howrah and Calcutta (Chitpur, Kidderpur Docks and Port Trust Railway) by the East Indian Railway from 1st January to 27th February 1897.

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Hooghly.</i>					
Tarakeswar ...	243	...	...	...	...
Chandernagore ...	6	...	...	...	...
Dasghora ...	2	...	...	...	...
Pandua ...	4	...	...	...	...
Bainchi ...	17	...	...	...	...
Total ...	272	...	...	...	...
<i>Burdwan.</i>					
Memari ...	58	...	...	...	...
Rasulpur ...	4	...	...	...	...
Burdwan ...	95	48	...	...	14
Baiganj ...	1,460	223	142	206	369
Sitarampur ...	10	...	...	...	...
Ghuskara ...	103	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,730	271	142	206	383
<i>Birbhum.</i>					
Bolpur ...	2	...	...	...	...
Sainthia ...	1	...	...	...	...
Total ...	3	...	...	...	...
<i>Nadia.</i>					
Chuadanga ...	353	...	...	...	...
Kushtia ...	343	...	387	...	355
Alamdanga ...	...	888	...	...	...
Total ...	696	888	387	...	355
<i>Murshidabad.</i>					
Azimganj ...	157	154	...	...	...
Total ...	157	154	...	...	...
<i>Rangpur.</i>					
Lalmonir Hat ...	55	...	...	...	...
Cooch Behar ...	755	...	...	...	377
<i>Jalpaiguri.</i>					
Jalpaiguri ...	392	...	...	...	...
Ramshai ...	...	...	375	356	...
Total ...	392	...	375	356	...
<i>Darjeeling.</i>					
Darjeeling ...	382	346	...	...	...
Total ...	382	346	...	...	...
TOTAL OF BENGAL	4,442	1,659	904	562	1,115

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 18th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
CHOTA NAGPUR.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Hazaribagh.</i>					
Giridih ...	750	...	876	...	...
Total ...	750	...	876	...	...
<i>Manbhum.</i>					
Purulia ...	22	...	...	...	...
Bulrampur ...	5	...	...	...	...
Barakar ...	8	...	...	...	...
Pradhan Khanta ...	1	...	...	...	...
Total ...	31	...	...	...	...
<i>Singhbhum.</i>					
Chakradharpur ...	81	...	...	...	...
Total ...	81	...	...	...	...
TOTAL OF CHOTA NAGPUR ...	812	...	876	...	...
BIHAR.					
<i>Sonthal Parganas.</i>					
Maharajpur Ghat ...	...	...	...	...	872
Pakour ...	...	...	...	...	6
Sahibganj ...	880	872	...	874	1,182
Baidyanath ...	2	...	...	...	...
Total ...	882	872	...	874	1,610
<i>Bhagalpur.</i>					
Ghoga ...	...	...	370	...	...
Bhagalpur ...	764	...	...	...	...
Total ...	764	...	870	...	...
<i>Monghyr.</i>					
Lakhisarai ...	388	...	...	...	...
Monghyr ...	382	...	...	...	...
Garhara ...	2,208	877	...	...	...
Tegra ...	746	...	...	...	...
Begamsarai ...	371	...	...	...	...
Total ...	4,155	877	...	...	...
<i>Patna.</i>					
Barh ...	1,548	...	...	376	...
Patna ...	12,781	3,017	4,748	5,805	9,395
Bankipore ...	1,491	...	...	...	...
Digha Ghat ...	2,376	1,135	...	378	378
Sadispur ...	875	...	...	...	...
Bihta ...	1,211	...	126	...	...
Mokameh ...	...	...	378	378	...
Dinapur ...	...	...	...	375	...
Total ...	19,782	4,152	5,252	6,812	9,771
<i>Gaya.</i>					
Gaya ...	...	...	870	381	724

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BIHAR—concd.					
<i>Shahabad.</i>					
Ragbunathpur ...	...	...	...	...	374
Arrah ...	...	...	...	370	...
Buxar ...	1,513	1,541	...	371	752
Dumraon ...	378	372	...	...	745
Total ...	3,020	1,918	...	741	1,871
<i>Darbhanga.</i>					
Samastipur ...	...	...	2,398	...	740
Dalsingh Sarai ...	374	...	...	378	...
Darbhanga ...	8,169	...	378	755	2,658
Kamtaul ...	1,104	...	...	...	...
Total ...	9,647	...	2,771	1,133	3,308
<i>Muzaffarpur.</i>					
Kanti ...	...	...	748	...	...
Matipur ...	1,022	...	...	...	...
Dholi ...	1,115	...	404	...	...
Muzaffarpur ...	6,843	1,275	1,903	3,057	3,701
Bhagwanpur ...	22	...	...	...	...
Sitamarhi ...	382	...	...	...	...
Hajipur ...	...	...	377	785	392
Total ...	9,384	1,275	3,432	3,842	4,153
<i>Champaran.</i>					
Macsi ...	1,018	...	...	...	...
Segowli ...	1,410	...	...	...	...
Jindara ...	6,735	...	1,929	...	1,488
Bettiah ...	5,727	...	1,141	4,172	5,694
Para ...	507	...	...	...	...
Motibari ...	...	383	378	376	...
Total ...	15,397	383	3,448	4,548	7,182
<i>Saran.</i>					
Ekma ...	...	375	...	810	1,129
Chapra ...	4,112	1,505	3,770	4,480	2,275
Goldenganj ...	2	...	...	...	...
Daronda ...	372	...	...	...	376
Saran ...	16,409	5,747	5,536	9,940	13,012
Revelganj ...	10,784	1,155	1,491	1,868	3,748
Total ...	31,679	8,782	10,797	17,098	20,540
TOTAL OF BIHAR ...	94,210	17,254	26,440	34,929	49,149
TOTAL OF PROVINCES UNDER THE LIEUTENANT-GOVER- NOR OF BENGAL.	99,464	18,913	27,720	35,491	50,264
NORTH-WESTERN PROV- INCES AND OUDH.					
<i>Ghasipur District.</i>					
Sakaldiha ...	...	...	378	...	...
Dildarnagar ...	1,868	747	750	804	1,139
Guhmer ...	865	...	...	...	...
Tari Ghat ...	5,352	...	2,682	...	...
Total ...	7,585	747	3,760	804	1,139

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February. 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WESTERN PROV. INCES AND OUDH.— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Benares District.</i>					
Zamania	1,869	376	...	...	1,499
Sakaldiha	2,273	883	...	...	...
Mogulsarai	879	...	...	...	...
Benares Cantonment ...	26,811	6,905	5,594	1,510	9,462
Total ...	81,832	7,664	5,594	1,510	10,961
<i>Gorakhpur District.</i>					
Chaurichaura ... ..	...	1,127	...	1,871	...
Tahsil Deoria	1,510	375	378	383	...
Gorakhpur	2,304	1,142	378	...	...
Sahjanwa	773	1,146	377	...	...
Total ...	4,587	3,790	1,133	2,254	...
<i>Basti District.</i>					
Khalilabad ... ..	...	...	378	...	...
Basti	1,933	751	1,508	2,633	1,521
Uska Bazar	1,146	...	748	746	875
Total ...	3,079	751	2,634	3,379	1,896
<i>Gonda District.</i>					
Nawabganj ... ..	...	...	...	1,129	...
Gonda	1,485	1,888	2,264	1,858	2,625
Other places	1,153	3,374	1,129	...	1,132
Total ...	2,638	5,262	3,393	2,987	3,757
<i>Baraich District.</i>					
Baraich ... ..	...	...	378	376	...
<i>Mirzapur District.</i>					
Ahaura Road	1,505	1,891	1,888	...	1,874
Chunar	823	...	378	...	...
Mirzapur	22,465	6,440	7,652	2,253	1,128
Gainpura	383	...	...	...	384
Total ...	25,176	8,331	9,918	2,253	3,386
<i>Allahabad District.</i>					
Naini ... ..	...	...	370	...	...
Manwari	378	377	378	...	...
Jasra	376	750	370	378	1,154
Mija Road	15,747	4,934	2,240	3,897	11,328
Nahwai	1,519	...	...	...	...
Allahabad	48,683	18,991	12,444	7,874	17,168
Bharwari	7,819	1,131	1,138	1,880	1,880
Sirathu	4,551	1,125	1,510	2,281	757
Shiurajpur	763	...	...	...	...
Other places	376	...	...	...	...
Total ...	80,212	27,308	18,450	15,810	32,287

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEE.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.					
<i>Etahpur District.</i>					
Khaga ... ..	...	378	381	...	751
Bindki	14,387	3,096	10,292	4,868	3,014
Total	14,887	3,474	10,673	4,868	3,765
<i>Cawnpore District.</i>					
Cawnpore City	93,071	26,114	30,208	29,433	52,467
<i>Etawah District.</i>					
Phaphund	2,643	1,146	752	1,126	...
Bharthna	383	...	...	878	...
Etawah	19,017	5,724	4,746	2,767	1,123
Jasawantnagar	3,014	1,156	...	...	1,123
Total	25,062	8,026	5,498	4,271	2,246
<i>Farukhabad District.</i>					
Farukhabad ... ..	...	378	...	...	...
Kanauj	381	...	...	...	...
Total	381	373	...	...	...
<i>Mainpuri District.</i>					
Kaurara	3,782	1,157	378	...	...
Shakohabad	1,966	381	379	...	377
Total	5,748	1,538	757	...	377
<i>Agra District.</i>					
Firozabad	12,015	762	1,140	1,205	1,131
Agra	20,578	2,272	1,506	1,808	7,936
Total	32,593	3,034	2,646	3,013	9,067
<i>Sitapur District.</i>					
Sitapur	379	...	378	748	1,896
<i>Muttra District.</i>					
Muttra	2,331	392	747	858	...
<i>Allyghur District.</i>					
Sikandra Rao	753	...	...	...	...
Hattrass	21,867	2,277	378	370	5,772
Allyghur	6,414	1,436	...	...	379
Total	28,834	3,713	378	370	6,151
<i>Bulandshahar District.</i>					
Secundrabad ... ..	...	370	...	377	...
Khurja	5,308	377	1,512	1,188	749
Dibai	756	...	756	...	...
Total	6,064	747	2,268	1,565	749

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH—contd.					
<i>Meerut District.</i>					
Ghaziabad	568	375	762	375	...
Meerut	6,851	1,496	4,147	6,142	3,994
Total	7,417	1,871	4,909	6,517	3,994
<i>Banda District.</i>					
Banda	1,187	881	3,781	1,134	870
Bargarh	742	388	1,119	...	...
Manikpur	384	375	374	380	...
Kurwi	1,145	1,178	3,415	1,877	...
Total	3,458	2,817	8,689	3,391	870
<i>Moradabad District.</i>					
Khanth ... ..	...	...	...	...	374
Moradabad ... ..	...	877	1,147	881	3,005
Chundowsi	782	1,892	1,128	5,988	6,408
Total	782	2,269	2,275	6,369	9,787
<i>Azimgarh District.</i>					
Shahganj	7,558	2,268	3,893	1,110	751
<i>Bareilly District.</i>					
Aonla	1,510	1,287	1,181	...	1,497
Bareilly	2,711	2,617	7,538	9,085	7,584
Total	4,221	3,854	8,669	9,085	9,081
<i>Jaunpur District.</i>					
Jaunpur	14,496	7,530	3,783	6,779	7,149
<i>Shajehanpur District.</i>					
Shajehanpur	4,180	1,128	784	1,132	4,131
Tilbar	5,061	1,135	1,177	3,668	1,927
Auji	2,684	375	758	1,940	1,128
Total	11,925	2,638	2,719	6,740	7,184
<i>Eta District.</i>					
Kashganj	754	...	...	...	...
<i>Lucknow District.</i>					
Lucknow	17,199	6,050	6,789	4,504	10,645
Alamnagar	7,976	3,453	3,468	727	2,251
Kakori	1,491	396	...	378	...
Malihabad	754	...	...	...	...
Total	27,420	9,899	10,252	5,609	12,896
<i>Pilibhit District.</i>					
Pilibhit ... ..	...	...	378	1,138	...
<i>Saharanpur District.</i>					
Saharanpur ... ..	...	...	...	...	379

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WESTERN PROV. INCES AND OUDH— concd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Fyzabad District.</i>					
Radhauli	1,138	1,131	2,056	378	3,420
Fyzabad	9,146	7,962	5,695	6,395	11,350
Ajodhya	762	1,131	378	..	1,517
Gosainganj ... ..	...	405	...	384	...
Total	11,041	10,629	8,729	7,157	16,287
<i>Sultanpur District.</i>					
Akbarpur	1,150	748	370	748	1,137
<i>Bara Banki District.</i>					
Duryabad ... ..	...	...	378	...	...
Bara Banki	3,415	395	750	755	1,516
Safidarganj	8,795	4,150	8,200	756	4,152
Total	12,210	4,554	9,328	1,511	5,668
<i>Hardai District.</i>					
Balamau ... ..	...	376	...	...	379
Hardai	6,104	3,097	3,825	370	3,411
Baghauli	5,493	1,132	756	378	1,377
Sandila	1,138	370	378	...	375
Total	12,735	4,975	4,959	748	6,042
<i>Bijnor District.</i>					
Dhampur ... ..	...	...	...	370	2,647
Nagina ... ..	...	...	...	375	1,886
Najibabad ... ..	...	...	...	1,133	1,127
Bijnor ... ..	...	1,124	...	...	...
Total ... ..	...	1,124	...	1,878	5,660
<i>Jhansi District.</i>					
Jhansi ... ..	...	...	756	...	754
<i>Lalitpur District.</i>					
Lalitpur ... ..	...	...	378	..	377
<i>Khori District.</i>					
Lakshmipur ... ..	...	...	...	378	...
<i>Hamirpur District.</i>					
Mahoba	899	378	378	1,130	1,146
Other places	14,099	...	...	...	10,580
TOTAL OF THE NORTH- WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	4,98,124	1,56,318	1,68,778	1,34,787	2,29,386

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
PANJAB.					
<i>Amritsur District.</i>					
Amritsur ...	...	...	740	...	...
<i>Delhi District.</i>					
Delhi ...	89,817	12,123	10,173	15,969	25,038
<i>Jullundur District.</i>					
Jullundur City ...	8	...	...	...	...
<i>Umballa District.</i>					
Umballa City ...	402	...	1,186	1,495	3,074
<i>Gurgaon District.</i>					
Faraknagar ...	...	...	378	...	...
Gurgaon ...	...	376	...	376	...
Rewari ...	12,795	1,556	2,660	6,165	7,737
Total ...	12,795	1,932	3,038	6,541	7,737
Other places ...	12,187	7,126	6,802	6,893	10,546
TOTAL OF THE PANJAB ...	65,204	21,181	21,939	30,398	46,890
CENTRAL PROVINCES.					
Sehora Road ...	...	370	758	...	1,150
Katni ...	...	740	1,118	882	874
Jubbulpur ...	...	1,437	3,783	2,998	6,076
Peparia ...	...	378	378	1,126	875
Kareli ...	...	370	756	760	1,507
Nagpur ...	...	756	1,545	756	...
Other places ...	1,145	481	1,879	2,182	4,194
Total ...	1,145	4,532	10,217	8,204	13,676
RAJPUTANA AND CENTRAL INDIA.					
Dholpur ...	...	...	...	1,126	...
Ajmere ...	...	...	376	...	...
Sutna ...	3,096	378	3,775	1,509	2,645
Mhow ...	147	769	379	...	...
Ulwar ...	392	379	381	...	...
Indore ...	750	756	...	...	...
Jeypore ...	378	...	...	763	...
Bawal ...	378	...	377	...	...
Harphulpur ...	383	...	388	...	378
Other places ...	...	3,081	378	...	...
Total ...	5,524	5,363	6,054	3,398	3,023
Hyderabad ...	378	778	...	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st to 30th January 1897.	Week ending 6th February 1897.	Week ending 13th February 1897.	Week ending 20th February 1897.	Week ending 27th February 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BERAR.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Malkapur	26	...	...	...	...
Khamgaon	68	...	...	...	881
Akola	53	...	...	...	656
Amraoti	66	...	...	886	743
Total	211	...	...	886	1,780
Unspecified places ...	15,320	14,796	13,789	12,180	4,237
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,80,870	2,21,881	2,48,447	2,24,794	3,48,758
ABSTRACT.					
Total of Bengal ...	4,442	1,659	904	562	1,115
" " Bihar ...	94,210	17,254	26,440	34,929	49,149
" " Chota Nagpur ...	812	...	376	...	...
" " the North-Western Provinces and Oudh ...	4,98,124	1,56,818	1,68,778	1,84,787	2,29,888
" " the Panjab ...	65,204	21,181	21,939	30,398	46,390
" " Rajputana and Cen- tral India ...	5,524	5,363	6,054	3,398	3,023
" " Central Provinces ...	1,145	4,532	10,217	8,204	13,676
" " Hyderabad ...	378	778	...	...	...
" " Berar ...	211	...	...	886	1,780
" " Unspecified places...	15,320	14,796	13,789	12,180	4,237
Add exports from Calcutta from 1st to 30th January 1897, the details whereof are not available.	87,800	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	7,68,170	2,21,881	2,48,447	2,24,794	3,48,758

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE PRICES OF FOOD-GRAINS.

RETAIL prices of common rice and other food-grains in the several districts of Bengal and in the neighbouring districts of the North-Western Provinces during the first and second fortnights of January and February 1897, as compared with the corresponding fortnights of January and February in 1896, are published for general information. The latest available prices of common rice in Cachar and Sylhet are also published.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT, the 9th March 1897.

Quantity obtainable for a rupee.

DISTRICTS.	1897.				1896.			
	16th January.	31st January.	16th February.	28th February.	16th January.	31st January.	16th February.	28th February.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
Common Rice—								
Burdwan ...	10 0	9 12	11 0	11 0	16 15	16 8	16 8	16 0
Birbhum ...	9 6	9 0	9 0	9 12	18 0	18 0	17 4	16 8
Bankura ...	11 8	11 4	11 4	11 8	18 12	18 12	18 12	18 12
Midnapore ...	10 8	10 8	11 0	11 0	20 0	20 0	19 8	19 8
Hooghly ...	8 8	8 8	9 0	9 8	13 1	11 13	11 13	11 13
Howrah ...	10 8	10 8	9 8	10 8	15 4	15 4	16 0	15 4
24 Parganas ...	10 0	10 8	11 0	10 0	14 0	15 0	14 8	15 4
Calcutta ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 12	13 0	13 0	13 0
Nadia ...	9 2	9 2	9 2	9 9	14 8	15 7	14 8	15 7
Murshidabad ...	10 0	10 0	10 8	10 2	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0
Jessore ...	9 6	10 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
Khulna ...	10 8	11 3	11 6	12 12	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
Rajshahi ...	9 6	9 12	9 12	10 2	16 12	16 12	16 12	16 2
Dinajpur ...	9 9	10 0	9 9	10 3	18 0	17 0	17 0	17 0
Jalpaiguri ...	9 9	9 0	9 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	17 0
Darjeeling ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	13 0
Rangpur ...	10 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	14 0
Bogra ...	10 2	10 8	10 2	10 14	17 4	17 4	17 4	17 4
Pabna ...	9 7	9 6	10 0	10 8	17 4	16 8	15 0	16 8
Dacca ...	10 6	10 8	10 8	10 0	13 8	13 4	13 4	13 8
Mymensingh ...	9 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0
Faridpur ...	9 8	9 13	9 12	10 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0
Backergunge ...	10 0	10 8	10 6	10 4	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 8
Tippera ...	11 0	10 10	10 10	11 2	16 0	16 0	13 0	13 0
Noakhali ...	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 8	16 0	15 0	14 0	14 8
Chittagong ...	9 0	9 0	9 4	9 8	12 8	12 12	13 0	13 0
Patna ...	10 2	10 6	10 8	10 0	19 8	19 8	18 8	18 8
Gaya ...	9 0	9 0	9 8	9 4	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 8
Shahabad ...	9 8	10 0	10 0	9 8	18 0	18 0	18 0	18 0
Saran ...	9 8	9 8	10 0	10 0	18 0	17 8	17 0	17 0
Champanan ...	8 8	9 0	9 8	9 4	18 0	18 8	18 8	18 0
Muzaffarpur ...	8 0	9 0	9 0	8 8	15 0	14 0	15 0	16 8
Darbhanga ...	9 0	9 4	9 0	9 0	18 9	19 0	19 11	19 11
Monghyr ...	9 2	9 8	9 8	9 0	16 8	15 8	15 0	16 0
Bhagalpur ...	10 2	10 2	10 12	...	17 10	17 10	18 4	18 4
Purnea ...	10 0	10 0	9 8	10 0	21 0	20 0	19 0	20 0
Mulda ...	9 0	10 0	10 8	...	16 8	16 0	16 8	17 0
Sonthal Parganas ...	10 4	10 0	10 12	10 4	17 0	16 0	16 8	16 8
Cuttack ...	11 13	11 13	11 13	11 13	23 0	23 10	23 0	23 0
Balasore ...	11 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	22 0	25 0	25 0	25 0
Puri ...	10 8	10 8	13 2	11 13	23 10	23 10	24 0	23 10
Hazaribagh ...	8 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	14 0	14 8	14 8	14 8
Lohardaga ...	9 0	9 0	9 0	9 4	14 0	14 8	14 0	14 0
Palaman ...	9 4	8 11	8 7	8 7	14 1	14 10	14 10	14 10
Manbhum ...	11 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 4
Singhbhum ...	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0

Districts.	1897.				1896.			
	15th January.	31st January.	15th February.	28th February.	15th January.	31st January.	15th February.	28th February.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
WHEAT—		S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
Patna	9 8	9 0	8 0 and 9 0	10 0	15 0	12 0 and 13 0	12 0 and 13 0
Gaya	8 0	8 0	7 8	8 0	10 8	10 0	10 0
Shahabad	8 8 and 9 0	8 0 and 8 12	8 0 and 9 0	8 8 and 9 0	12 0 and 13 0	12 0	11 0
Saran	8 8	8 8	8 8	8 8	11 10	10 0	10 8
Champan	9 0	9 0	8 1½	7 12	12 8	12 0	10 8
Muzaffarpur	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 8	12 0	10 8
Darbhanga	7 4	7 0	7 0	6 8	12 0	12 8	11 8
Monghyr	8 12	8 0	8 4	8 8	14 0	13 0	12 0
Bhagalpur	8 14	8 14	8 14	...	12 10	12 10	12 10
Purnea	10 0	10 4	11 0	9 8	18 0	16 0	16 0
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE—								
Patna	11 8	11 12	12 8	11 8	26 0	26 0	27 0
Gaya	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	22 0	21 8	22 0
Shahabad	10 8	11 8	11 0 and 11 8	11 4	22 0	21 8	22 0
Saran	10 8	10 8	10 4	10 8	24 8	24 8	25 8
Champan	10 0	10 8	10 11½	10 8	26 4	26 4	26 8
Muzaffarpur	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 8	24 8	25 0	25 0
Darbhanga	9 12	10 0	10 0	9 4	28 7	27 6	28 7
Monghyr	11 4	10 12	11 8	12 0	26 4	25 8	25 0
Bhagalpur	11 6	12 0	12 0	...	26 4	25 4	25 4
Purnea	16 0	13 0	...	...	26 0	24 0	23 0
Sonthal Parganas	12 0	12 4	12 0	12 0	26 0	25 0	25 0
Hazaribagh	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	18 0
Lohardaga	10 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	18 0	16 0	16 0
Palamau	10 14	10 6	9 9	9 9	18 9	17 7	18 7
Manbhum	12 0	12 0	18 0	12 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
Singhbhum	10 0	10 0	...	.....	.....	.....	.....

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

COMMON RICE—								
Jaunpur ...	...	9 8	9 8	9 12	9 12	10 0	10 0	10 0
Gorakpur ...	...	8 2	8 2	8 12	8 9	16 5	15 5	14 14
Mirzapur ...	...	7 11	7 12	7 12	8 6	12 0	13 0	13 0
Benares ...	...	7 9	8 1½	8 6	8 6	12 9	12 12	12 11½
Ghazipur ...	...	8 4	9 8	9 4	9 4	15 8	14 8	13 8
Ballia ...	...	8 8	9 0	10 0	9 8	16 0	16 0	13 0
WHEAT—								
Jaunpur ...	...	7 11	7 6	7 12	7 12	11 0	11 0	11 0
Gorakpur ...	...	7 3	7 6	8 9	8 2	9 14	9 7	9 14
Mirzapur ...	...	7 14	8 2	8 9	8 1	11 0	10 8	10 8
Benares ...	...	7 11	8 11½	7 12	7 11	11 5	11 1½	10 9
Ghazipur ...	...	7 0	8 8	8 8	9 8	11 8	9 8	9 4
Ballia ...	...	7 8	7 12	9 0	8 12	11 12	10 0	10 0

ASSAM.

Prices of common rice for the week ending 18th February 1897 :—

	Week of report.	Previous week.	Corresponding week of 1896.
	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
CACHAR—			
Janiganj Bazar	... 9 11	9 6	13 13½
Hailakandi	... 9 9	9 0	14 14
SYLHET—			
Kasi Bazar	... 10 8	10 0	12 4
Chhetak Bazar	... 10 0	9 0	12 0
Sunamganj	... 10 0	10 0	13 0
Habiganj	... 10 0	10 0	12 0
Karimganj	... 9 1	9 8	14 0
Maulvi	... 10 0	10 0	14 0

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 8th March 1897.

Burdwan.—No rain. Weather hot. *Rabi* being harvested. A fair outturn is expected in Sadar and Katwa subdivisions. Outturn in Kalna and Raniganj not as good. Sugarcane is being pressed and *till* is being sown. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling as follows:—

			Srs. c.	Srs. a.	
Sadar 10 0	to 12 0	} per rupee.
Kalna	...	...	... 10 8	to 11 0
Katwa	...	...	... 10 15	to 11 2
Raniganj	...	...	...	10 8

Birbhum.—No rain. Weather getting hot. *Rabi* crops poor for want of rain. Price of common rice at Sadar 9½ seers, and Rampur Hat 11 seers per rupee.

Bankura.—No rain. Weather becoming hot. Pressing of sugarcane still continues. Ploughing stopped again, and harvesting of *rabi* has begun in places. Fodder is everywhere sufficient. Water insufficient in a few places. Rice selling at 11½ seers per rupee at Bankura and Vishnupur. Considerable export of rice.

Midnapore.—No rain. Weather hot. Threshing of *aman* still going on. *Boro* is being sown in Gopiballavpur and Binpur. Prospect of indigo and *rabi* good. Sugarcane is still being pressed. Cattle-disease reported from Jhargram, Dantun, Salbani, Sabang, Naraingarh, Binpur, and Ramnagar. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling as follows:—

			Srs.		
Sadar	11	} per rupee.
Contai	...	...	... 12	to 14
Tamluk	...	...	...	10½
Ghatal	...	...	...	12

Hooghly.—No rain. Want of rain felt throughout the district. *Rabi* suffering for want of moisture. Common rice sells from 8 to 11 seers per rupee.

Howrah.—Rainfall nil. Weather hot with strong south-easterly wind. Prospect of *rabi* not good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells from 8½ to 11 seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—Rainfall nil. Weather hot with south wind. Prospects of crops poor. Some preparation of lands is going on, but more rain is wanted for ploughing. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs. c.		
Sadar 9 to 11	0	} per rupee.
Barasat	...	...	...	10 0
Basirhat	...	...	...	10 8
Diamond Harbour	...	...	...	10 10

Nadia.—Rainfall nil. Weather getting very hot. Wheat and barley are being reaped and threshed in places. Ploughing almost stopped for want of rain. Water-supply generally deficient. Fodder insufficient in places. Common rice sells from 8 to 10 seers 11 chitaks per rupee. Latest price of rice where test-works are open is 9 seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March—

			Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	...	...	8,323	726	635	4,684
Dependants	...	...	Nil	59	1,550	1,609
Relieved in poor-houses	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Otherwise relieved	...	...	665	2,612	642	3,919
Test-workers	...	...	117	Nil	Nil	117
			Total		...	10,329

Murshidabad.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *rabi* crops commenced. Pressing of sugarcane still continues. State of indigo and mulberry good. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs.		
Sadar	10	} per rupee.
Kandi	11	
Jangipur	10½	

Four test-works open. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March—

			Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Test-workers	...	...	324	42	9	375

Jessore.—No rain. Days hot, nights cool. Harvesting of *rabi* crops nearly over. Sugarcane is being pressed. Rain badly wanted for sowing *till* and *boro* seedlings, and for preparation of lands for *aus* and jute. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder sufficient. Want of water is being felt in some places. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs. c.	
Jessore	...	...	...	10 to 11	8
Jhenida	...	...	...	10	0
Magura	...	...	...	10 to 10	14
Narail	...	...	...	10	10½
Bangaon	...	...	...	10 to 11	0

Khulna.—No rain. Weather hot. *Boro* crop fair. Rain wanted. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	
Khulna	...	...	...	10 to 11	
Bagerhat	...	...	...	12½	
Satkhira	...	...	...	9½	

Wages calculated at 10 seers per rupee. Five deaths of cattle reported from Paskohima in Baliaghata. Fodder available. Water getting scarce. Numbers employed on four relief-works—

		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	...	436	Nil	43	479
Otherwise relieved	...	301	1,136	586	2,023
				Total	2,502

Rajshahi.—Rainfall at Naogaon 0·39; no rain elsewhere. Prospects of existing standing crops very poor. Transplantation of *boro* paddy still going on in Nator. Sowing of jute and *bhadoi* crops commenced in places. Lands are being prepared for *aman* paddy. Fodder available everywhere. Scarcity of drinking-water reported from some places. Price of rice ranges between 8½ and 12 seers per rupee. Three test-works open. Numbers employed on Saturday, 6th March—

		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Test-workers	...	426	Nil	9	435

Price of rice at relief-works, 9½ to 10 seers per rupee.

Jalpaiguri.—No rain. Days warm, nights cool. Sowing of *betri* paddy and jute retarded for want of rain, and standing crops getting bad for want of moisture. Drinking-water and fodder-supply fair. Average price of common rice, 8½ seers per rupee.

Darjeeling.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Hills—Wheat, *tori* and barley coming to perfection; lands being prepared for planting *bhutta* and other crops. Terai—Tobacco on the ground; ploughing for sugarcane, jute and *bhadoi dhan* going on. Price of coarse rice:—

				Srs.	
Hills	...	...	...	8	
Terai	...	...	...	9 to 11	

Bhutta sells at 13 to 22 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—District average rainfall 0·16. No rain at Sadar. Lands mostly prepared for *aus* and jute, and sowing of *aus* going on. More rain wanted. Common rice selling at 9 to 11 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Bogra.—Rainfall ·95. Sowing of jute and *kauni* commenced. Prospects of jute and *aus* much improved. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling at head-quarters 10½ seers per rupee, and in the interior from 9 to 11½ seers per rupee.

Pabna.—Rainfall at Sadar 0·13, Sirajganj 0·47. Weather warm and partially cloudy. Prospects of standing crops indifferent. *Cheena* very fair where sown. Common rice selling from 8 to 10 seers per rupee in different places. Fodder sufficient. Number of test-workers on 8th March—men 52 and children 55.

Dacca.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·18, Manickganj ·31, Narainganj ·04. Weather hot. The recent rain has done some good to the standing crops. More rain is wanted. Fodder available. There is want of drinking-water in some parts of the district. No cattle-disease. Common rice sells at 10 to 11 seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·00. Weather cloudy with prospect of rain. The recent rain will be beneficial to *boro* and other spring crops. Cultivation for *aus* and jute going on. Average price of common rice 10 seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *rabi* in progress. Common rice selling at 10 to 11 seers per rupee. Fodder and water available.

Backergunge.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops poor. Common *aman* rice sells from 9½ to 12 seers per rupee.

Tippera.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·27. Weather unsettled; cloudy and warm with high winds. The rain will do much good to standing crops. Prices of rice:—

	Srs. c.	Srs. c.
Sadar	...	10 0 to 11 0
Ohandpur	...	10 8 to 11 8

} per rupee.

Noakhali.—No rain. Prospects of crops not good. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water available. Price of common rice 9 to 11 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—Rainfall 1·15. Weather warm and occasionally cloudy. Prospects not good. More rain wanted for *rabi* crops. Water and fodder sufficient. Rice selling at 10 seers per rupee. Sporadic cattle-disease continues.

Patna.—No rain. *Rabi* being harvested. Sugarcane being pressed. Lancing of poppy continues. *Rahar* being reaped. Prospects favourable all round. Fodder and water for cattle sufficient. Prices rising slightly in Barh and rice in Bihar. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dependants	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Relieved in poor-houses	28	18	13	59
Otherwise relieved	155	302	83	540
Test-workers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	...	...	...	599

Gaya.—No rain. *Rabi* harvesting and poppy lancing continues. Price of common rice at Sadar, 9 seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—Rainfall nil. Harvesting of *rabi* and sugarcane continues. Prospects of crops generally favourable. Price of common rice 9½ seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March—

Bhabua subdivision—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	848	908	442	2,198
Dependants	Nil	Nil	353	353
Relieved in poor-houses	114	10	69	193
Otherwise relieved	2,243	4,860	2,986	10,089

Sasaram subdivision—

Relieved in poor-houses	...	33	10	5	48
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Arrah—

Relieved in poor-houses	...	12	8	9	29
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Total ... 12,910

Saran.—No rain. Harvesting of *rabi* commenced. Indigo and sugarcane being sown. Average price of *makai* 10 seers 9 chitaks per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—				
Relief-workers	654	858	1,061	2,573
Dependants	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Relieved in poor-houses	47	27	24	98
Otherwise relieved	1,280	5,167	1,009	7,456
Test-workers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Siwan subdivision—				
Relief-workers	714	1,295	713	2,722
Dependants	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Relieved in poor-houses	8	19	17	44
Otherwise relieved	641	1,938	539	3,118
Test-workers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Gopalganj subdivision—				
Relief-workers	2,664	2,882	3,275	8,821
Otherwise relieved	1,632	4,411	2,101	8,144

Private relief—

Hatwa—

Relief-workers	...	2,109	1,889	1,585	5,583
Relieved in poor-house	...	145	122	140	407
Otherwise relieved	...	45	139	67	251

Manjha—

Relieved in poor-house	...	5	7	10	22
Otherwise relieved	...	23	13	23	59

Champaran.—No rain. Harvesting of spring crops especially peas begun. Opium being collected with fair yield. Price of common rice risen at Sadar from 9 to 8½ seers, maize 10½ seers. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March—

Sadar subdivision—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	23,751	15,785	10,912	50,448
Dependants	399	580	2,550	3,529
Relieved in poor-house	37	37	33	107
Otherwise relieved	4,678	9,990	9,146	23,814

Bettiah subdivision—

Relief workers	31,826	32,337	15,117	79,280
Dependants	189	809	3,429	3,927
Relieved in poor-house	(Details not given)			107
Otherwise relieved	3,378	6,733	4,246	14,357

Total ... 175,569

Muzaffarpur.—No rain. Prospects good. Prices are—Burma rice 9 seers, common rice 8 seers, wheat 8 seers, *makai* 10½ seers, barley 10 seers, gram 11 seers, *rahar* 10½ seers. Numbers on relief-works on Saturday, 6th March—

Sadar subdivision—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	7,633	2,901	1,901	12,435
Dependants	21	19	104	144
Relieved in poor-houses	37	13	7	57
Otherwise relieved	1,910	4,139	3,033	9,082

(Figures for two circles in Katra charge not received.)

Hajipur subdivision—

Relief-workers	1,363	1,424	1,177	3,969
Otherwise relieved	82	226	39	347

Sitamarhi subdivision—

Relief-workers	2,109	887	693	3,689
Dependants	4	37	316	357
Relieved in poor-houses	95	60	86	241
Otherwise relieved	2,549	4,552	3,833	10,934

Darbhanga.—No rain. Harvesting of *rabi* crops commenced in places. Indigo being sown. Common rice selling at 9 seers and *makai* 9½ seers. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March—

Sadar subdivision—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	16,355	15,787	4,956	37,098
Dependants	28	16	647	691
Relieved in poor-houses	27	14	13	54
Otherwise relieved	6,387	15,862	8,725	30,974

Madhubani subdivision—

Relief-workers	21,826	16,371	6,988	45,185
Dependants	79	443	1,694	2,216
Relieved in poor-houses	6	1	2	9
Otherwise relieved	4,764	12,931	7,592	25,287

Samastipur subdivision—

Relief-workers	1,851	2,376	810	5,037
Relieved in poor-houses	14	8	2	24
Otherwise relieved	180	333	215	758
Test-workers	37	68	31	136

Private relief—

Darbhanga Raj—

Relief-works	15,000	4,998	1,792	21,790
Gratuitous relief	1,983	4,709	3,860	10,552

Monghyr.—No rain. Standing crops doing well. *Rabi* harvesting continues. Lands being prepared for paddy sowings. Sufficient fodder and water. Common rice sells as follows:—

Monghyr	...	...	...	9 to 10 0
Begusarai	...	...	...	9 11
Janui	...	...	...	8 to 9 8

} per rupee.

Bhagalpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *rabi* has commenced. The price of barley has fallen in the Sadar subdivision from 11 seers 6 chitaks to 12 seers 10 chitaks per rupee. On the other hand, the price of rice has risen from 10 seers 2 chitaks to 9 seers 12 chitaks in the Sadar, and from 10 seers to 9 seers 8 chitaks at Supaul; at Madhipura and Banka it remains stationary at 10 seers and 10 seers 10 chitaks respectively. The price of *kurthi* is 12 seers 14 chitaks per rupee at Banka, 15 seers at Madhipura, 14 seers at Supaul, and 13 seers 14 chitaks at Sadar. Price of *marua* at Supaul 14 seers, against 14 seers 8 chitaks in the previous week. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease reported from a few villages in Banka, Supaul, and Sadar. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Madhipura subdivision—				
Relief workers...	3,680	2,428	924	7,032
Dependants ...	Nil	Nil	388	388
Otherwise relieved	413	1,166	799	2,378
Test-workers	65	83	55	203
Supaul subdivision—				
Relief-works ...	1,324	1,326	485	3,135
Dependants ...	1	Nil	113	114
Otherwise relieved	229	549	299	1,077

Purnea.—No rain. Mustard and tobacco harvest continues; outturn good. Standing *rabi* crops doing fairly. Molasses being manufactured at Kishanganj. Lands being prepared for next jute and *bhadoi* crops. A few cases of cattle-disease reported from Araria and Raniganj thanas. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	9½	} per rupee.
Kishanganj	9	
Araria	11	

Malda.—No rain. Days warm; mornings and evenings cool. Ploughing for *bhadoi* paddy going on. Prospects of standing *rabi* crops fair. Want of drinking-water has begun to be felt in the Barind tract. Fodder sufficient. Ordinary rice selling at 9 to 11 seers per rupee.

Sonthal Parganas.—No rain. *Rabi* and *mahua* fair. Water and fodder beginning to fail. Price of rice 10 to 11 seers, and of maize 11 to 13 seers per rupee.

Cuttack.—No rain. Weather hot. *Dalua* in ear. Ploughing for next *beali* and *sarad* in progress. Rice more or less available in all places. Cattle-disease prevalent in places. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs. c.	
Cuttack	11 13	} per rupee.
Jajpur	14 7	
Kendrapara	14 7	
Banki	15 12	

Balasore.—No rain. *Sarad* rice being threshed. *Dalua* crop flourishing, and is in ear in places. Sugarcane being pressed. Ploughing going on. Price of rice varies from 12 to 14 seers per rupee in the interior. Rice sells at 12 and 14 seers per rupee at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Fodder and water sufficient.

Puri.—No rain. *Dalua*, *mandia*, *cheena*, and *mug* growing fairly well. Land being prepared for next rice crop. Fodder and food-supply fair. Price of common rice stationary.

Angul.—Rainfall nil. There are no edible crops on the ground, though sugarcane is being planted. Quite 50 per cent. of the culturable area has been ploughed by aid of the recent rain in February. There is no demand for labour. No disease among cattle reported. Price of coarse rice, 14 to 16 seers per rupee in Angul and 15 seers in Khondmala.

Hazaribagh.—No rain. Weather bright and warm. *Mahua* promising full crop. Price of rice 8½ to 10 seers per rupee. 1,200 on test-works.

Lohardaga.—No rain. Ploughing continues. Prospect of *mahua* good. Rice sells at Ranchi 11 seers per rupee, and in the interior from 8 to 12 seers. Cattle-disease reported from Bunda, Palkote, and Lohardaga. Fodder and water sufficient. Grain stock sufficient for the present.

Palaman.—Rainfall nil. Weather getting warm. *Rabi* in good condition being reaped in places; about 8 annas of a normal outturn expected. Prices still rising. In 72 markets rice selling below 9 seers, against 63 markets in the previous week; 12 markets against 17 at 9 seers; and 4 markets against 10 above 9, but below 10 seers. Bounty rice imported all sold. Supply not equal to demand. *Mahua* very backward, but coming on. *Phalgoni mahua* crop nil, and mango crop very poor. Cattle-disease reported from eastern thanas:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	1,681	1,226	751	3,658
Otherwise relieved	276	392	145	813

Manbhum.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. *Mahua* promising well. Rinderpest in thanas Chandil, Raghunathpur, and Purulia. Fodder and drinking-water sufficient at present. Price of common rice 10 seers at Sadar and 9 seers at Govindpur. 1,719 men, 1,086 women, 218 children and 328 dependants on nine test works on 6th instant; 4,600 others on gratuitous-relief.

Singhbhum.—No rain. Rice plentiful. Price, 10 to 12 seers per rupee.

General Summary.—There was rain in parts of Northern and Eastern Bengal during the week. More and general rain is required for the cultivation of autumn rice and jute in Bengal Proper. In Orissa the ploughing of lands is in progress. Spring rice is doing well. The harvesting of the *rabi* crops is in progress, and the collection of opium is going on. The *mahua* crop in Chota Nagpur is promising, but in Palamau it is said to be very backward. Sugarcane pressing continues. Prices show but little change during the week. In the distressed districts the prices of the staple grain on which the famine wage is based are—Nadia (common rice) 9 seers, Khulna (common rice) 10 seers, Rajshahi (common rice) 9½ to 10 seers, Shahabad (common rice) 9½ seers, Saran (Indian-corn) 10 seers 9 chitaks, Champaran (Indian-corn) 10½ seers, Muzaffarpur (Indian-corn) 10½ seers, Darbhanga (Indian-corn) 9½ seers, Bhagalpur (common rice) 9½ seers. These figures show a slight fall in Saran and Champaran, and a slight rise in Darbhanga and Bhagalpur: elsewhere prices remained unchanged.

The numbers on relief on Saturday, 6th March, were—

Nadia	...	10,329
Murshidabad	...	375
Khulna	...	2,502
Rajshahi	...	435
Pabna	...	107
Patna	...	599
Shahabad	...	12,910
Saran	...	32,976
Champaran	...	175,569
Muzaffarpur	...	41,255
Darbhanga	...	147,469
Bhagalpur	...	14,327
Hazariabagh	...	1,200
Palamau	...	4,471
Manbhum	...	7,851

Total 452,375 against 410,002 in the previous week.

This total is distributed as follows:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	... 122,043	99,517	50,883	272,443
Dependants	... 721	1,463	11,144	13,328 (+ 328 in Manbhum) = 13,656.
Relieved in poor-houses	458	225	280	963 (+ 107 in Bettiah subdivision) = 1,070.
Otherwise relieved	... 31,763	77,299	46,048	155,110 (+ 4,500 in Manbhum) = 159,610.
Test-workers	... 2,740	1,279	377	4,396 (+ 1,200 in Hazariabagh) = 5,596.

Private relief—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-works—				
Darbhanga Raj	... 15,000	4,998	1,792	21,790
Hatwa	... 2,109	1,889	1,585	5,583
Gratuitous relief—				
Darbhanga Raj	... 1,983	4,709	3,360	10,552
Hatwa	... 190	261	207	658
Manjha	... 28	20	33	81

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

M. FINUCANE,

The 9th March, 1897.

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the

Number.		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN																										
			WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU (Sorghum Vulgare)														
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.									
BENGAL.																													
BURDWAN DIVISION.	1	Burdwan	9 8	9 8	12 8	9 12	9 12	12 0	11 0	11 0	15 0
	2	Birbhum	8 0	7 8	12 12	...	...	...	7 8	$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} 6\ 12 \\ \text{to} \\ 8\ 0 \end{smallmatrix} \right\}$	12 12	9 12	$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} 9\ 0 \\ \text{to} \\ 9\ 12 \end{smallmatrix} \right\}$	16 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	3	Bankura	9 0	8 14	12 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 8	11 8	11 4	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	4	Midnapore	8 0	8 0	16 0	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	16 0	11 0	11 0	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	5	Hooghly	9 0	9 0	12 0	...	...	...	$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} 7\ 8 \\ 8\ 0 \end{smallmatrix} \right\}$	7 8	8 0	9 8	9 0	11 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	6	Howrah	$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} 7\ 8 \\ 8\ 0 \\ \text{(now)} \\ 9\ 0 \end{smallmatrix} \right\}$	8 0	12 4	10 8	9 8	15 4
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.	7	24-Parganas	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	6 0	7 8	10 0	11 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	8	Calcutta	8 0	8 0	11 13	11 13	11 13	16 0	6 6	6 6	8 0	8 0	8 0	13 0	11 13	11 13	17 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	9	Nadia	9 5	9 5	15 7	...	...	...	6 11	5 11	7 4	9 9	9 2	15 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	10	Murshidabad	10 0	9 0	15 0	10 0	10 0	...	8 8	8 12	11 0	10 2	10 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	11	Jessore	7 0	7 0	11 4	10 0	10 0	16 0	10 0	10 0	11 12	11 0	11 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	12	Khulna	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 4	9 14	13 0	12 12	11 6	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
RAJSHAH DIVISION.	13	Rajshahi	10 2	8 4	15 12	13 8	...	26 4	8 4	8 4	13 8	10 2	9 12	16 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	14	Dinajpur	8 0	8 0	11 8	...	...	...	$\begin{smallmatrix} t \\ 7\ 12\ 4 \end{smallmatrix}$	$\begin{smallmatrix} t \\ 7\ 12\ 4 \end{smallmatrix}$	12 0	$\begin{smallmatrix} t \\ 10\ 3\ 1 \end{smallmatrix}$	$\begin{smallmatrix} t \\ 9\ 9\ 3 \end{smallmatrix}$	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	15	Jalpaiguri	8 8	8 0	13 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	11 0	9 0	9 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	16	Darjeeling	6 0	6 0	9 0	8 0	7 0	10 0	5 8	5 8	5 8	8 8	8 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	17	Rangpur	7 0	7 0	...	...	...	...	8 0	7 0	8 0	10 0	10 8	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	18	Bogra	7 8	7 8	12 12	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	12 0	10 14	10 2	17 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
DACCA DIVISION.	19	Pabna	9 0	8 4	18 12	15 0	15 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 6	10 8	10 0	16 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	20	Dacca	8 4	7 8	12 4	...	...	...	9 4	9 4	12 0	10 0	10 8	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	21	Mymensingh	7 0	7 0	9 8	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	10 0	9 0	9 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	22	Faridpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 8	5 8	7 0	10 0	9 12	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	23	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 12	10 4	10 8	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

- A. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kalna 10 seers (panga) and 11 seers (karkatch), Katwa 10 seers 12 chittaks (karkatch), Raniganj 10½ seers (panga).
- B. At Vishnupur the retail price of salt is 9½ seers per rupee.
- C. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Contai 8 seers (panga), Tamruk 9½ seers (panga), and Ghatal 9 seers 2 chittaks (panga).
- D. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Serampore 9 seers, and Jahanabad 9 seers (panga).
- E. At Ulubaria the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
- F. In the marts in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Chetla 10 seers, Barnat 8½ seers, Magura 9 seers, and Baduria 10 seers 10 chittaks.
- G. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kushtia (Bahadurkhal) 10½ seers (panga), Chuadanga 9 seers 7 chittaks (panga), Mohorpur 10 seers 6 chittaks (karkatch), and Ranaghat 10 seers (crushed).
- H. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Lalbagh 11 seers, Kandi 10 seers, and Jangipur not reported.

OF 60 TOLANS.

BRICK CUMBU.
Makem typhoid.
(Mm.)

MARUA OR RAOL.
(Eleusine Corocana.)

Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.
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KANONI OR KAKUN,
ITALIAN MILLET.
(*Setaria Italica*.)

GRAM, CHAN,
CHHOLA, KADA
OR STYAGA
(*Cicer arvensis*.)

Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.
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S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch. S.

...	12 0	11 0	1
...	9 12	9 6	1
...	10 0	9 8	1
...	10 0	10 0	0
...	8 0	8 0	0
...	11 0	10 8	0
...	9 8		

...	9 0	9 0	0
8 0	8 0	10 10	10 10	10 10	0
...	...	...	12 9	11 13	0
...	...	...	13 8	13 0	0
...	...	...	10 0	10 0	0
...	...	...	9 0	9 0	0

...	...	...	12 12	11 4	0
...	...	...	9 9 3	9 9 3	0
...	...	...	10 0	9 8	0
...	...	...	7 0	7 0	0
...	...	...	9 8	9 8	0
...	...	...	8 1	8 4	0
...	...	...	10 0	10 0	0

...	...	...	10 0	9 4	0
...	...	...	8 0	8 0	0
...	...	...	...	...	0
...	...	...	8 8	8 0	0

Head-quarters Station Bazaar of the Districts of Bengal on the 28th February 1897.

INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE. (Zea Mays.)															ARHAR OR THUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus Indicus.)						SALT.			WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.						DISTRICTS.	Number.			
Present return.			Next preceding return.			Corresponding return of last year.			Present return.			Next preceding return.			Corresponding return of last year.			Present return.			Next preceding return.			Corresponding return of last year.										
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.								
...	15	8	15	8	18	0	11	8	11	8	12	0	Crushed.			3	5	0	3	5	0	3	4	6	Burdwan	1					
...	12	0	8	0	14	4	10	8	10	8	10	8	3	10	6	3	10	6	3	10	6	3	10	6	Birbhum.	2					
...	10	0	9	4	11	8	B			10	8	9	8	10	8	3	13	0	4	2	0	3	8	6	Bankura.	3					
...	12	8	18	0	19	8	C Panga.			10	0	10	0	Panga.			3	15	0	3	15	0	3	8	0	Midnapore.	4				
...	7	8	7	8	11	0	Crushed.			10	8	10	8	Crushed.			3	12	0	3	13	0	3	8	0	Hooghly.	5				
...	9	8	9	0	12	4	D			9	0	9	0	11	8	Crushed.			4	4	0	4	4	0	3	8	0	Howrah.	6		
...	8	0	10	0	12	0	E			9	0	9	0	11	7	3			14	0	4	0	0	3	6	0					
...	8	0	10	0	12	0	F			9	8	9	0	11	0	Panga.			3	12	0	3	13	0	3	5	0	24-Parganas.	7		
10	0	...	16	0	12	4	12	4	13	14	G			9	6	9	6	11	6	Panga.			3	10	0	3	11	0	3	8	0	Calcutta.	8	
...	16	0	15	4	15	7	H			10	5	10	5	11	6	Panga.			3	14	0	3	14	0	3	8	0	Nadia.	9		
...	14	0	14	0	18	0	I			11	0	11	0	11	0	Karkatch.			3	8	0	3	8	0	3	6	0	Murshidabad.	10		
...	16	0	16	0	20	0	J			9	0	9	0	9	2	Panga.			4	2	0	4	2	0	3	10	2	Jessore.	11		
...	9	0	9	0	10	0	K			8	0	8	0	10	12	Panga.			4	8	0	4	8	0	3	8	0	Khulna.	12		
...	15	12	15	12	22	13	L			9	0	9	0	9	9	Panga.			4	2	8	4	2	8	3	10	8	Rajshahi.	13		
...	t			9	6	8	9	6	8	10	0	Panga.			4	4	0	4	4	0	3	12	0	Dinajpur.	14
...	9	0	8	8	10	0	Rora.			9	0	8	8	10	0	Panga.			4	1	8	4	3	0	3	11	0	Jaipauri.	15		
14	0	14	0	17	0	7	0	7	0	8	0	M			7	0	7	0	8	0	Panga.			5	3	0	5	3	0	4	8	0	Darjeeling.	16
8	0	12	8	7	0	7	0	10	10	N			8	0	8	0	10	4	Panga.			4	1	0	4	4	0	3	12	0	Rangpur.	17
...	O			8	1	7	15	9	12	Panga.			4	6	8	4	6	8	3	13	4	Bogra.	18		
...	16	8	...	...	...	...	P			9	6	9	4	9	12	Panga.			4	1	6	4	4	0	3	10	0	Pabna.	19		
...	9	0	9	0	17	8	Q			9	0	9	0	10	0	Panga.			4	3	0	4	3	0	3	10	0	Dacca.	20		
...	8	0	8	0	13	0	R			8	0	8	0	8	0	Panga.			4	6	0	4	6	0	4	0	0	Mymensingh.	21		
...	S			8	12	8	12	10	11	Panga.			4	10	0	4	10	0	3	13	0	Faridpur.	22		
...	T			9	0	9	0	10	10	Panga.			4	4	0	4	4	0	3	8	0	Backergunge.	23		

1. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Jhenida 9 seers 1 chitak, Magura 8 seers 11 chitaks.
 Naraol 8 seers 11 chitaks, Bongaon not reported.
 J. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Satkhira 9½ seers, Bagerhat not reported.
 K. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt (panga) per rupee are:—Nator 8½ seers and Naugaon 9 seers.
 L. At Kurseong the retail price of salt is 8 seers per rupee.
 M. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kurigram 8 seers, Nilphamari 9 seers, Gaibanda not reported.
 N. At Sirajganj the retail price of salt is 10½ seers per rupee.
 O. In the marts in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Madanganj 10 seers 10 chitaks, Manikganj 9 seers, Munshirhat 10 seers 10 chitaks, Miskadim 10 seers 10 chitaks.
 P. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kishoreganj 9 seers 6 chitaks, Jamalpur 8 seers 6 chitaks, Kagrami 8 seers, and Netrokona 8 seers.
 Q. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Madaripur 10 seers (crushed) and Goalundo 8½ seers (panga).

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the Head-quarters

Number.	DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN																	
		WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLEN. (Sorghum Vulgare.)					
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.			
BENGAL—concluded.																			
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	24	Tippera	...	7 4	7 4	10 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	11 2	10 10	13 0	...	...	...
	25	Noakhali	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	13 0	10 8	10 0	14 8	...	...	...
	26	Chittagong	...	6 4	6 8	10 14	...	...	...	6 4	6 8	11 0	9 8	9 4	13 0	...	...	...
BIHAR.																			
PATNA DIVISION.	27	Patna	...	10 0	{ 8 0 and 9 0 }	{ 11 0 and 12 0 }	12 0	12 0	23 0	9 8	9 0	12 0	10 0	10 8	18 8	12 0	13 0	25 0	
	28	Gaya	...	8 0	7 8	13 8	11 0	10 4	20 0	8 8	7 8	10 0	9 4	9 8	16 8	11 0	10 8	19 4	
	29	Shahabad	...	{ 8 8 and 9 0 }	{ 8 0 and 9 0 }	{ 11 0 }	...	...	22 0	{ 8 12 and 9 0 }	{ 9 0 }	{ 8 0 }	{ 9 8 and 9 12 }	{ 10 0 and 11 0 }	18 0	...	...	...
	30	Saran	...	8 8	8 8	10 8	12 0	12 0	21 0	7 0	7 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	17 0	...	...	...
	31	Champaran	...	7 12	8 1	11 8	...	...	30 0	6 4	6 4	8 8	9 4	9 3	18 0	...	...	...
	32	Muzaffarpur	...	8 0	8 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	17 0	7 0	7 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	15 8	...	...	...
	33	Darbhanga	...	6 8	7 0	11 8	11 0	11 0	17 0	8 0	7 8	10 8	9 0	9 0	19 11	...	...	...
BHAGALPUR DIVISION.	34	Monghyr	...	8 8	8 4	{ Old 11 0 New 15 0 }	11 8	11 8	24 0	6 0	6 0	9 8	9 0	9 8	15 0	...	...	...
	35	Bhagalpur	...	...	8 14	12 10	...	12 10	22 11	...	8 14	13 14	...	10 12	18 4	...	...	...
	36	Purnea (Kasba)	...	9 8	11 0	16 0	...	...	16 0	9 0	8 0	16 0	10 0	9 8	20 0	...	...	...
	37	Malda*	...	...	...	13 0	...	...	...	...	7 0	12 0	...	10 8	17 0	...	...	...
	38	Sonthal Parganas.	...	7 12	7 12	9 4	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	13 8	10 4	10 12	16 8	...	...	...
ORISSA.																			
ORISSA DIVISION.	39	Cuttack	...	7 4	7 4	11 8	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	13 2	11 13	11 13	23 0	...	...	...
	40	Balasore	...	10 0	10 0	16 0	9 8	9 8	10 0	{ 8 0 to 10 0 }	{ 8 0 to 10 0 }	18 0	12 0	12 0	25 0	...	...	...
	41	Puri	...	6 9	6 9	7 12	...	...	...	7 14	7 14	11 13	11 13	13 2	23 10	...	...	...
CHOTA NAGPUR.																			
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.	42	Hazaribagh	...	7 0	7 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	16 0	6 8	6 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	14	...	...	...
	43	Lohardaga	...	{ 5 12 to 7 12 }	{ 5 12 to 7 12 }	{ 6 8 to 11 0 }	...	...	16 0	{ 7 0 to 7 8 }	{ 7 0 to 7 8 }	13 0	{ 8 8 to 9 4 }	{ 8 8 to 9 9 }	14 0	...	...	...
	44	Palamau	...	8 7	7 14	11 4	10 2	9 0	20 4	7 5	7 5	11 4	8 7	8 7	14 10	...	...	...
	45	Manbhum	...	9 8	9 0	11 0	...	...	29 0	{ 8 0 to 8 8 }	{ 7 8 to 8 0 }	11 0	{ 10 0 to 10 8 }	{ 10 0 to 10 8 }	{ 15 4 to 16 0 }	11 0	12 0	...
	46	Singhbhum	...	8 0	8 0	12 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	15 0	...	...	...

* Present return not received.

- In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Brahmanbaria 8 seers and Chandpur 9 seers.
 At Feni Hat the retail price of salt is 7 seers per rupee.
 At Cox's Bazar the retail price of salt is 8½ seers per rupee.
 In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Barh 10 seers, Bihar 10 seers, and Dinapore 10½ seers.
 In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Jahanabad 10 seers, Aurangabad 9½ seers, and Nawada 9 seers.
 In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Bhabua 10 seers, Buxar 10½ seers, Sasaram not reported.
 In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Siwan 11 seers 7 chittaks, and Gopalgunj 11 seers 14 chittaks.
 At Bottiah the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
 In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Hajipur 9½ seers and Bitamarhi 11 seers.
 In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Samastipur 11 seers and Madhubani 11½ seers.

CALCUTTA,

The 9th March 1897.

BEERS OF 80 TOLARS.

BAJRA OR CHIBU.
(*Pennisetum typhoid.*
var.)

MARUA OR RAGI.
(*Eleusine Coracana.*)

Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.
-----------------	-----------------------------	---	-----------------	-----------------------------	---

S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.

...
...
...

...	...	...	...	15 0	28 0
...	...	...	...	...	24 4
...
...	...	...	8 8	12 0	25 0
...	...	...	12 4	12 4	30 0
...
...	...	...	12 0	12 0	27 5

...
...
...	...	...	...	11 0	...
...	12 8	22 0	...	...	...
...

...
...
...

...	...	...	11 8	12 0	22
...	...	...	13 0	13 0	29
...	...	...	11 4	11 4	20
...
...

KARONI OR KAKUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Seteria italica</i> .)			GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KADALAY OR BUNAGA. (<i>Cicer arisianum</i> .)		
Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.

. Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...	8 0	8 0	13 0	...	...
...	8 0	8 0	12 0	...	...
...	8 0	8 0	12 12	...	...

14 0	15 0	25 0	12 8	11 8	17 0
8 0	12 0	15 8	10 12	9 12	16 0
...	...	...	{ 11 0 and 11 8 }	{ 11 0 and 11 8 }	17 0
1 0	12 0	15 0	12 0	11 0	17 0
...	...	...	10 4	10 1	17 8
...	...	...	11 0	10 8	16 0
...	...	...	10 0	10 0	17 8

...	...	13 4	12 8	12 0	{ old 15 0 now 20 0 }
...	...	...	...	10 12	16 0
...	...	21 0	10 0	9 0	16 0
...	12 0	13 0	...	8 0	16 0
...	...	...	10 0	9 8	13 8

...	...	...	14 7	14 7	120 5
...	...	...	9 0	9 0	13 0
...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0
...	...	...	11 13	11 13	115 12

...	...	...	9 4	9 0	13 4
...	...	...	{ 8 0 to 8 8 }	{ 7 8 to 8 8 }	{ 13 0 to 14 0 }
...	...	...	9 0	9 9	13 8
...	...	...	10 0	10 0	14 0
...	...	...	8 0	8 0	12 0

PRICES-CURRENT (wholesale) of Food-grains, Firewood,

Number.	MART.	RICE (BEST SORT).			COMMON RICE (<i>meta chaul</i>).			WHEAT (<i>Triticum sativum</i>).			BARLEY (<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>).		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	Calcutta	6 0 0	6 0 0	5 0 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	3 2 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	2
2	Burdwan	4 0 0	4 0 0	...	3 8 0	3 8 0	...	4 2 0	4 2 0	...	...	...	...
3	Midnapore	4 6 0	{ 4 4 0 to 4 8 0 }	...	3 8 0	{ 3 6 0 to 3 8 0 }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Pabna	6 10 0	6 10 0	...	3 12 0	4 0 0	...	4 6 0	4 12 0	...	...	...	...
5	Rangpur	4 18 0	5 8 0	...	3 14 0	3 14 0	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	...	...	...	...
6	Dacca	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 5 0	4 0 0	3 10 0	2 11 0	4 18 0	4 18 0	3 0 0	...	...	...
7	Chittageng	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 10 0	4 0 0	4 2 0	3 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 10 0	...	...	...
8	Patna	4 2 0	4 5 0	3 4 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	2 1 6	3 15 0	4 5 0	{ 3 9 0 and 3 4 0 }	3 4 0	3 5 0	1
9	Muzaffarpur	5 11 6	5 11 0	...	4 4 0	4 11 0	...	5 5 0	5 0 0	...	3 10 0	3 5 0	...
10	Bhagalpur*	...	4 8 0	...	...	3 11 6	...	...	4 8 0	...	...	3 8 0	...
11	Cuttack	4 5 6	4 5 6	3 0 0	3 3 3	3 3 3	1 8 0	5 3 6	5 3 6	3 6 0	...	...	...
12	Ranchi	{ 5 5 0 to 5 12 0 }	{ 5 5 0 to 5 11 0 }	...	{ 4 5 0 to 4 11 0 }	{ 4 7 0 to 4 11 0 }	...	{ 5 2 6 to 7 9 9 }	{ 5 2 6 to 7 9 9 }	...	...	...	...

* Present return not received.

CALCUTTA,

The 9th March 1897.

JUAR OR CHOLUM (<i>Sorghum vulgare</i>).			BAJRA OR CUMBU (<i>Pennisetum typhoides</i>).			MARUA OR RAGI (<i>Echinochloa crusgalli</i>).			GRAM, CHANA, CHOLA, KADALAY, OR BUNAGA (<i>Cicer arietinum</i>).		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.
4 0	3 4 0	2 4 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	2 12 0	...	...	...	3 8 0	3 8 0	2 12 0
...	3 6 0	3 10 0	...
...
...	4 0 0	4 0 0	...
...	3 15 0	3 12 0	...
...	4 0 0	4 1 0	2 10 0
...	4 12 0	4 14 0	3 0 0
0 0	3 0 0	1 9 0	...	...	...	...	2 8 0	1 6 6	3 0 0	3 8 0	3 5 0
...	3 10 0	3 13 0	...
...	3 11 6	...
...	Biri or kalai		...
...	2 10 3	2 10 3	2 0 0
...	4 11 0	4 11 0	}
...	to	to	
...	5 0 0	5 5 0	...

PRICES PER MAUND

INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE (Zemays).			ARHAR DAL OR THUR— CADJAN PEA (<i>Cajanus indicus</i>).			LINSEED.			MUSTARD AND RAPSEED.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.
4 0 0	...	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	...
...	...	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	4 6 0	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	...	Back mustard. 4 8 0 | 4-12 to 4-15 White mustard. 5 4 0 | ... Rapeseed. 5 4 0 | 5 0 0 3 14 0 | 4 0 0		
...	...	...	4 0 0	4 6 0	...	4 6 0	4 6 0	...	...	...	...
4 13 0	3 0 0	...	5 11 0	5 6 0	...	11 0 0	11 0 0	...	3 4 0	4 0 0	...
...	...	...	4 0 0	3 15 0	1 15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 4 0	4 4
3 5 0	3 1 0	1 8 0	2 10 6	2 8 0	1 11 0	3 0 0	3 5 0	...	3 8 0	4 0 0	...
3 13 0	4 0 0	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	3 5 3	...	...	3 8 3	...	...	3 12 0	...	...	3 11 6	...
...	...	...	2 12 3	2 12 3	2 0 0	...	...	...	3 18 0	3 18 0	...
...	...	...	6 2 0	6 2 0	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	...	{ 5 0 0 5 0 0 to to 5 12 0 5 12 0 }		

STANDARD BEERS.

TIL OR JINGILI SEED.		SUGAR (RAW).			COTTON, CLEANED.			JUTE.		
Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
0	4 4 0	4 10 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 4 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	5 0 0	5 4 0
	...	...	4 0 0	4 4 0	...	17 0 0	16 0 0	...	...	...
	...	...	4 4 0	{ 4 0 0 to 4 6 0 }	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	...	...	...
	...	...	3 10 0	3 12 0	...	24 0 0	24 0 0	...	4 2 0	4 4 0
	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	4 8 0
	...	...	5 4 0	5 4 0	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	4 0 0
	...	...	5 4 0	5 0 0	5 12 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	16 0 0	...	...
0	4 0 0	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	15 0 0	15 0 0	...	3 0 0	3 0 0

	...	...	...	3 4 0	...	...	17 0 0	...	...	...
0	4 3 0	...	4 14 0	4 14 0	...	20 8 0	20 8 0	...	...	...
	...	...	{ 3 10 0 to 4 0 0 }	{ 4 0 0 to 4 7 0 }	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	...	...	...

GHI (CLARIFIED BUTTER).			TOBACCO LEAF.			HIDES (COW).			GRASS.	
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
28 0 0	30 0 0	34 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	...	{ 240-0-0 per 100 pieces.	{ 250-0-0 per 100 pieces.	...	6 8 0	6 8 0
26 0 0	25 5 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32 0 0	32 0 0	...	{ 5 2 0 and 6 12 0 }	{ 5 4 0 and 6 14 0 }	...	{ Uncleaned hides, per piece. 0 8 0 to 2 12 0 }	{ 0 8 0 to 2 4 0 }	...	...	...
29 0 0	29 0 0	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	{ Cleaned hides, per piece. 0 12 0 to 2 6 0 }	{ 0 12 0 to 2 8 0 }	...	...	...
30 0 0	29 0 0	...	4 8 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	...	8 bundles per rupee.	10 bundles per rupee.
35 0 0	35 0 0	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	27 0 0 per maund.	27 0 0 per maund.	...	3 12 0	3 12 0
36 0 0	36 0 0	38 0 0	9 0 0	9 8 0	...	18 0 0 per maund.	18 0 0 per maund.	...	...	...
22 0 0	22 0 0	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	...	...	...	0 5 0 per maund.	0 5 0 per maund.
22 13 0	22 13 0	...	11 7 0	11 7 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	26 0 0	...	...	8 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 8 0	30 8 0	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	...	{ 22 0 0 per maund.	{ 22 0 0 per maund.	...	20 0 0 per kahan.	20 0 0 per kahan.
26 10 0 to 32 0 0	26 10 0 to 32 0 0	...	{ 8 0 0 to 13 6 0 }	{ 15 0 0 }	...	{ 2 0 0 per piece.	{ 2 0 0 per piece.	...	{ 0 3 0 per maund.	{ 0 3 0 per maund.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, MARCH 10, 1897.

775

in the undermentioned Marts of Bengal on the 28th February 1897.

STRAW.			JUAR STALKS			PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 STANDARD SEERS.										MARTS.
						IRON.			FIREWOOD.			SALT.				
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		
63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
5 4 0	5 4 0	5 2 0	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 10 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	8 10 0	0 3 11 0	3 8 0	1. Calcutta.
per kahan.	per kahan.	...	...	...	...	6 8 0	6 8 0	...	0 8 0	0 8 0	...	3 5 0	0 3 5 0	...	2. Burdwan.
6 0 0	7 0 0	...	...	...	...	4 4 0	4 4 0	...	0 4 0	0 3 0	...	3 15 0	0 3 15 0	...	3. Midnapore.
per kahan.	per kahan.	...	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	...	...	...	...	3 12 0	0 3 13 0	...	Crushed.
0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	...	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	7 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 8	...	4 1 0	0 4 4 0	3 10 0	4. Fanna.
per maund.	per maund.	...	...	...	...	6 0 0	6 0 0	...	0 6 0	0 4 0	...	4 1 0	0 4 4 0	...	5. Rangpur.
8	10	...	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	...	0 4 2 0	0 4 2 0	4 2 0	4 3 0	0 4 3 0	3 10 0	6. Dacca.
bundles per rupee.	bundles per rupee.	...	...	...	...	5 4 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	4 12 0	0 4 12 0	3 8 0	7. Chittagong.
...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	3 8 0	0 3 12 0	3 6 0	8. Patna.
0 7 0	0 7 0	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	8 0 0	...	0 4 0	0 4 0	...	3 10 0	0 3 10 0	...	9. Munaffarpur.
per maund.	per maund.	...	...	...	...	5 4 0	...	...	0 4 0	...	...	1 4 0 0	...	...	10. Bhagalpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 8 0	3 0 0	0 3 0 0	3 7 0	11. Cuttack.
2 10 0	2 10 0	2 8 0	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	...	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 3 0	0 4 3 0	4 2 0	12. Ranchi.
per kahan.	per kahan.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No fixed rate.	No fixed rate.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Abstract of the results of Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory in the month of February 1897.

	Inches.	Date.	Hour.
The mean pressure of the month ...	29·919		
The average pressure of February from 24 years' registers ...	29·945		
The highest pressure in the month ...	30·083	12th	10
The lowest pressure in the month ...	29·761	26th	16
The range of pressure ...	0·322		
	Hours.		
The total number of hours of bright sunshine during the month ...	184·3		
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine ...	318·0		
	°		
The mean temperature of the month ...	72·8		
The average temperature of February from 24 years' registers ...	73·0		
The highest temperature in the month ...	91·6	25th	
The lowest temperature in the month ...	53·2	19th	
The range of temperature during the month ...	38·4		
The mean daily range of temperature ...	18·8		
The greatest range of temperature in one day ...	29·4	24th	
	Per cent.		
The mean humidity of the month ...	72		
The average humidity of February from 24 years' registers ...	67		
	Inches.		
The mean vapour tension of the month ...	0·564		
The average vapour tension of February from 9 years' registers ...	0·538		
The mean cloud proportion of the month ...	3·06		
The average cloud proportion of February from 20 years' registers ...	1·89		
	Ina.		
The total rainfall of the month ...	1·59		
The total rainfall indicated by a Beckley's self-registering rain-gauge (mouth of the gauge about 52 feet above the ground) ...	?		
The average fall of February from 48 years' registers ...	0·87		
The greatest fall in 24 hours ...	1·26	2nd	
	Days.		
The number of rainy days in the month ...	7		
The average number of rainy days in February from 24 years' registers ...	3		
	°		
The mean maximum equilibrium temperature of solar radiation during the month ...	131·9		
The mean difference of sun and air temperatures ...	49·3		
The greatest sun temperature ...	143·2	25th	
The greatest excess of sun over air temperature ...	57·3	20th	
The mean temperature of the nocturnal radiation thermometer on woollen cloth ...	57·8		
The mean depression of the nocturnal radiation thermometer below the minimum air temperature at 4 feet above the ground ...	6·4		
The greatest depression of the nocturnal radiation thermometer below the minimum air temperature ...	10·8	25th	
	Miles.		
The mean movement of the wind per day ...	81·1		
The greatest movement of the wind in one day ...	172·0	12th	
The greatest movement of the wind in one hour ...	?		

The number of hours with winds from each of the 8 points—

N. 37, N.E. 25, E. 25, S.E. 37, S. 35, S.W. 101, W. 83, N.W. 56, Calm 33.

The results of observations at the Alipore Observatory are not rigorously comparable with the registers of past years (at the Park Street Observatory). The barometer is about 3 feet higher at Alipore, and, other things being equal, reads therefore '003 lower. The diurnal range of temperature is also greater at Alipore, and the mean temperature apparently about 2·1° lower; and, finally, the thermometer which furnished the record of temperature at the Surveyor-General's Office during 20 years and upwards is found to read 0·6 higher than the Kew standard thermometer, which is the standard of reference at the present Observatory.

NOTE.—The wind directions are for 18 days, as during the remaining period of the month the anemograph was under repair.

J. H. GILLILAND,

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA,
Calcutta, the 8th March 1897.

For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt of India.